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Iran's Push for Nuclear Arms and a Small Airstrip in Germany

By Chris Hedges
New York Times Service

HASENMOOR, Germany - The tiny Hartenholm civilian airport here, with its fleet of a dozen aging Cessnas, small wooden building for the local parachute club, snack bar, nine warehouses, and red-and-white-checkered control tower, appears to be the idyllic home for weekend and business fliers.

But the airport, which, because of its size, operates largely beyond the scrutiny of the customs authorities, is believed to be one of dozens of transit points used by the Iranian government to smuggle, from Europe to Iran, weapons parts, and advanced technology used to develop nuclear weapons, Western intelligence officials say.

Some intelligence officials say they believe that despite an embargo imposed by the West Iran may

despite an embargo imposed by the West, Iran may have a nuclear capacity in as little as five years. Intelligence officials say the airport is part of an

elaborate network set up by Iran's Islamic govern-ment throughout Europe, Russia, and the Central Asian republic one that is apparently also being used to funnel weapons to the Croatian government and Muslims in Bosnia.

The airport, which is 56 kilometers (35 miles) north of Hamburg, is owned by three Iranians who are reputed to be among the biggest arms dealers in Europe, the officials say.

And some German officials say they now suspect that some Iranians who have used the airport for arms trafficking, backed by the Tehran government, may be implicated in the mysterious death in 1987 in a Geneva hotel room of Uwe Barschel, the former premier of the German state of Schleswig-Holstein, where the airport is located.

Intelligence agencies are so overwhelmed by the scope of the Iranian smuggling operation that, they said, it is almost impossible to monitor. The clandestine equipment, they said, is often broken down into nearly unidentifiable parts and shipped out from different countries and by different routes. "It is almost impossible to trace the material

being smuggled out by the Iranians," a senior German intelligence official said. "Unless you know exactly what type of technology they are trying to build, the smugglers can collect various parts, from various sources that mask the Iranians' intent

"The Iranians spread their acquisitions program over a huge area. We were able to stop one recent acquisition only because we obtained the key numbers of the component they wanted to build on a computer disk. Our best hope now is that we can delay the process. We will not be able to stop it."

Iranian officials deny that Tehran is trying to build a nuclear arsenal. Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akhar Velavati, has called for all nuclear weapons programs in the Middle East to be disclosed and has chastised Israel for refusing to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which Iran has signed.

German intelligence officials said that they had mounted an ambitious program to halt the flow of arms-related technology to Iran. There was no way the Germans were ever willing to provide German technology to help the Iranians," Bernd Schmidbauer, the chancellery minister in charge of intelligence coordination, said when asked about Iran's smuggling network. "This has been our position and is adhered to strictly."

Intelligence officials said that the Iranian effort

to acquire nuclear weapons technology mirrored the push by President Saddam Hussein to build a nuclear bomb in Iraq over the last 15 years. The Iranians use many of the old Iraqi smuggling routes and contacts, officials said. But, they added, Iran, unlike Iraq, is able to mask many acquisitions because of its nuclear energy program

The small airport, tucked in rolling pasture land, would seem to be little use to the Iranians. It is built

See IRAN, Page 8

Japan Ignites A Firestorm Over Use of Atom Bombs

By Paul Blustein Washington Post Service

TOKYO — Japan's long-simmering anger over the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki burst to the surface Wednesday as the mayors of those two cities condemned the United States for the nuclear attack, with Nagasaki's mayor likening the 1945 bombings to Hitler's geno-cidal killing of Jews.

"I think that the atomic bombings were one of the two greatest crimes against humanity in the 20th Century, along with the Holocaust," said Hitoshi Motoshima

the Nagasaki mayor, in a speech to the foreign correspondents' club here.

Mr. Motoshima, discounting the U.S. argument that the bombings were necessary to bring World War H to a speedy end, said the United States was motivated to drop the bomb in part by the \$2 billion

OUT DOST TO O Hiroshima's mayor, Takashi Hiraoka, speaking at the same forum, also ques-tioned U.S. motives, attributing the bomb-ing to Washington's desire to demonstrate its military power and block Soviet expan-sion in the Far East.

The mayors' comments offered power-(u) evidence of the tensions that are rising on both sides of the Pacific as the 50th anniversary of the war's end approaches in August and the gap between the two sides' perceptions of the war grows more obvi-

تايي. In recent months, Japanese indignation flared over a U.S. Postal Service plan subsequently dropped — to issue a stamp commemorating the bornbings. Anger also erupted here when the Smithsonian Institution decided against showing an A-bomb exhibit emphasizing the devastation inflicted on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a move widely interpreted in Japan as evidence of America's inability to come to

terms with its own war guilt. Although mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have for decades called the bombings unjustified, the comments Wednesday marked an exceptionally harsh official broadside against the atomic at-

Throughout much of the postwar cra-Japanese officials have refrained from accusing the United States of violating international law or morality, partly because of the importance of the Tokyo-Washington alliance, partly because of the national sense that a defeated country should accept its fate. While extremists of both the left and right denounced President Harry S. Truman's decision to use the bomb, the mainstream view here generally held that Japan, as the only nation to suffer nuclear attack, should put aside rancor about Hi-roshima and Nagasaki and strive for the elimination of all atomic weapons.

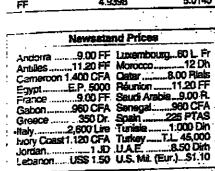
Some of that forgiving tone was expressed Wednesday as the mayors of both cities emphasized that their main purpose was to achieve total nuclear disarmament,

not to point fingers. "In the days and weeks after the atomic bombings," Mr. Motoshima said, the sur-vivors "hated the Americans."

Today, however," he added, "their only feeling now is one of loathing toward nu-

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ASSESSING THE PEACE - Yasser Arafat in Tunis on Wednesday, where he was to lead a Fatah central committee meeting on the peace process.

Middle East Peace: Now It's Up to Assad and Rabin

By Barton Gellman and John Lancaster Washington Past Service

JERUSALEM — When Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher arrived in the Middle East last week, Israel's historic movement toward peace with its neighbors was stalled. Syria had cut off direct contacts in December, and Israel slammed the brakes on Palestinian self-rule after a Jannary suicide bombing.

Both sets of talks were moving again when Mr. Christopher departed the region Wednesday. The American mission exposed some progress, reached in weeks of

NEWS ANALYSIS

secret contacts between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators, toward elections and a partial withdrawal of the Israeli Army from the occupied West Bank. And President Hafez Assad of Syria consented again

LONDON (Combined Dispatches)

-The current strength of the Deutsche

mark may allow the Bundesbank room

to cut interest rates on Thursday, the

bank's president, Hans Tietmeyer, said in an interview in The Guardian news-

His comments gave an immediate lift

to the dollar, although they were re-

leased well after the New York market

had finished trading Wednesday. The dollar rose to 1.3925 Deutsche marks

from 1.3895 DM at the New York close.

policymaking council would decide Thursday whether the rise in the mark

may give us a little room for reducing

rates or whether we have to stay on

(Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg)

Mr. Tietmeyer said the Bundesbank's

paper on Thursday.

course.'

to permit his Washington ambassador to meet with Israel's.

"It's turned out to be one of the most satisfying trips I've made to the Middle East," Mr. Christopher said at the windup of his 11th visit in just over two years.

In many ways the outcome suggested little more than a return to the status quo of late 1994. For that reason, and because many people regard next year's U.S. and Israeli elections as a deadline for politically painful compromise, it is far from clear that tangible accords are in sight.

Two leading Israeli analysts, Shimon Schiffer and Nahum Barnea, described the six-day trip as "a big step for Christopher" and "a small step for the peace process."

But that seemed to understate the psychological boost. After months of obituaries, the peace talks have proved they are still kicking. That, the director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, Uri Savir said in an interview, "surprises only those who

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Italian Chief Gambles His Government Over Budget

Prime Minister Calls A Vote of Confidence To Push Plan for Deficit

> By Celestine Bohlen New York Times Service

ROME — Pushed to the brink by a debilitating budget battle, Prime Minister Lamberto Dini of Italy called Wednesday for a confidence vote on his two-monthold government, a gamble that could force national elections to be held as early as

After two days of debate in Parliament's lower house on amendments to his critical deficit-cutting budget package, Mr. Dini told deputies that he had no choice but to put his government on the line. "I am not asking you to form a government majority. or to choose political sides, but to render a service to the country," he said.

Speaking later to reporters, Mr. Dini, a former central banker who spent more than a decade in Washington at the International Monetary Fund, broke into English: "When the going gets tough," he said, "the tough get going."

If he is defeated in the vote Thursday,

then President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro would have to either name a new prime minister who could muster a parliamentary major-

ity or call immediate elections.

Mr. Dini, appointed early this year to head an interim nonpolitical government. has said he would resign after passing a four-point platform that included a program to cut back the deficit. But his government was weakened at the outset by a conflict with his predecessor, Silvio Berlusconi, a media magnate-turned-politician, over a date for new elections.

The budget package, which calls for 20 trillion lire (\$12 billion) in new taxes and spending cuts, passed the Senate this month. But it ran into trouble in the Chamber of Deputies, where Mr. Berlusconi has vowed to block it, apparently as part of his strategy to force early elections. Mr. Berlusconi said Wednesday that his Freedom Alliance would probably vote against Mr. Dini on Thursday, which would leave the prime minister's fate in the hands of a divided Communist Re-Establishment Party, a small party of the extreme left.

Since his government fell last December, Mr. Berlusconi has repeatedly called for June elections, which he says were promised by Mr. Scalfaro in January. In television advertisements broadcast in recent weeks, Mr. Berlusconi has told Italians that their vote to elect him last March has been betrayed, and in a recent speech he claimed that Italian democracy has been hijacked by "Communists and their allies who are preparing an all-out war" against his alliance.

Financial markets have been keeping a close watch on the budget debate, looking for reassurance that Italy is serious about tackling a deficit that is one of the highest in Europe.

In a statement last week, Mr. Dini warned that opposition to the budget bill had been interpreted as "confirmation that Italy is seemingly incapable of managing its own public deficit."

AGENDA

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THE AMERICAS Riding the Radio Waves

BUSINESS/FINANCE A Relapse for the Dollar

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The EU fishery commissioner, Emma Bonino, speaking Wednesday.

EU and Canada Plan Talks On Fish as Ship Is Released

By Tom Buerkle

BRUSSELS - The European Union and Canada moved to defuse their rancorous fishing dispute Wednesday as Canada released a Spanish trawler and both sides prepared to resume negotiations over fishing rights.

In Ottawa, Fisheries Minister Brian Tobin said after a special cabinet meeting that both sides had met conditions for a resumption of stalled negotiations.

The Spanish owner of the trawler Estai, whose seizure in international waters off Newfoundland on March 8 triggered the crisis, posted bond in St. John's. Newfoundland, for the boat's release on Wednesday, Mr. Tobin said. Canada had

arrested the captain on charges of illegal

In addition, he said fishing had stopped in the Grand Banks area beyond Canada's 200-mile (320-kilometer) coastal limit.

Canada has declared a 60-day moratorium on fishing for Greenland halibut, or turbot, in those international waters to protect dwindling stocks, but European countries have refused to recognize the

The permanent representatives of the 15 EU countries shelved any discussion of retaliation at a meeting in Brussels. They called for talks to begin here on March 22 under the auspices of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, or NAFO, the

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French Cave Paintings Set Off Stone-Throwing Over Ownership

By Dana Thomas Washington Past Service

PARIS - In mid-January, the Ministry of Culture announced to the world that several hundred Stone Age cave paintings had been discovered in southcentral France by a government archaeological official Jean-Marie Chauvet. Pictures of the 20,000-yearold paintings were published on front pages and magazine covers, broadcast on television news programs, even zapped over the Internet. The world was

Now comes reality. And the lawyers. At that original news conference, Minister of Culture Jacques Toubon told reporters that the govern-

ment was going to buy the property where the caves situated, nearly 15 hectares (38 acres) of a 75-hectare farm in the department of Ardeche. But the government had never mentioned this to the farm's owners. And the owners do not want to sell.

"It's the land of our ancestors," said the owners son, Pierre Coulange. "We've owned that property 600 years. And there's a family cemetery on the piece the government wants. It's fine that there's a great discovery. It's normal that the government wants to protect

it. But we want to keep it." Too bad, says the government. Either the Coulange family sells at a reasonable price, "or the government can expropriate the property." says Bernard Notari, the Ministry of Culture's technical counsel for heritage and museums.

In addition to property problems, there is the ques-tion of marketing. "Will the family have a percentage of all the souvenirs?" asks the Coulanges' lawyer, Caroline de Foresta. "Or will the state give the owner the rights to copy and sell the products?

As of now, there are no answers. Prime Minister Edouard Balladur "came to the little village where the caves are and shook hands with Mr. Chauvet a month ago." says Miss de Foresta, "and since then the goverament has shut down. The lawyers, the Ministry of Culture, no one is answering my calls or letters.

Mr. Notari had no idea whether negotiations were on hold, but did say, "To the family this is very important, but to the government this is a small affair that doesn't require immediate attention."

Meanwhile, Mr. Chauvet and his friends Christian Hillaire and Eliette Brunel-Deschamps have their own legal problems. The three of them found the caves on the Coulange property, on Dec. 18, after Mr. Chauvet felt a current of air blowing through some rocks on the

On Christmas Eve, with the permission of the Coulange family, they went back, crawled down a 612meter (2)-foot) shaft and found the Stone Age treasure. They took pictures. They made a video. They told the French government, which sent its own expert, Jean Clottes, to check it out and photograph it.
The Ministry of Culture borrowed Mr. Chauvet's

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Museveni (Too Firmly?) Brings a New Prosperity

By Stephen Buckley Washington Post Service

INJA, Uganda - During the 1980s, this city was dying, its economy crushed during Uganda's brutal and chaotic demise under two dictators. Factories vanished. Farmers languished under oppressive government strictures. New investment and construction halted.

Today, Jinja and its 70,000 residents are thriving. Old factories have reopened, new es have blossomed, foreign investment is pouring in, and a construction boom

Jinja's comeback is a vivid example of this nation's resurrected economy, which grew 8 percent last year — an exceptional performance on a continent where most economies either shrank or grew more slowly than did their populations.

Since 1992, about \$200 million in foreign investment has flowed into Uganda. Many farmers are flourishing as the government has loosened its grip. Uganda's inflation rate, 250 percent in 1987, has plummeted to 5 percent.

The country's 17 million people remain

among the world's poorest. But political stability, high prices for coffee crops and a huge influx of donor cash have fueled a resurgence since the dictators Idi Amin and Milton Obote oversaw the slaughter of at least 500,000 Ugandans during the 1970s and early

This nation, once a pariah state, has become a darling of Western politicians and donors, who have pledged \$820 million in aid this year, more than it requested.

"Uganda has definitely come a long way, even though it's got a long way to go," said Mark Ellyne, representative of the Interna-tional Monetary Fund in Kampala. "A lot of donors are still coming, because they see a country that's really trying to rebuild."

But critics of President Yoweri Museveni who grabbed power in a coup in 1986, say he has sacrificed democracy for development. They assail him for suppressing opponents and for continuing his ban on political parties, which some politicians decry as an attempt to smother opposition groups before presidential elections in December, Uganda's first such vote in a decade.

In Jinja, Enoka Kiregyera is basking in the nation's newfound economic strength. The 49-year-old farmer hails Mr. Museveni for guiding Uganda's move to a market economy and for encouraging the return of thousands of Indian Ugandan businessmen banished from the country by Mr. Amin during the early 1970s.

OST of all, Mr. Kiregyera said, he is pleased that Mr. Museveni has led the dismantling of government marketing boards, to which the farmers were forced to sell their coffee, cotton and other produce at exceedingly low prices, and which then exported those goods for a hefty profit. Economic liberalization has made the government's marketing board just another competitor among a slew of exporters. In 1990, there were only four coffee exporters. Now there are 100. Farmers who once earned only 30 percent of their products' ultimate export price now earn 65 percent to 70 percent.

The real key has been competition," said

Mr. Kiregyera, president of the Jinja chapter of the Uganda National Farmers' Associa-



Ugandans hauling in the catch: Foreign investment accounts for 16 percent of gross domestic product.

tion. "We get good prices for our goods now. We bring our things to the market, and we have many people who want to buy."

Uganda's success has come after several years of following reforms ordered by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. Those measures included devaluing its currency, freeing up export markets and encouraging foreign investment. Since embracing the changes, Uganda has seen its economy grow by about 5 percent a year.

The government has been especially effective at attracting foreign investment, which had dried up during the Amin and Obote years. Foreign investment made up only 7 percent of the gross domestic product during the 1980s; today it is 16 percent.

Uganda's main lures for foreign businesses have been a vastly simplified bureaucracy and tax-free status for five years for large corpora-

In the last three years, 20 new companies have come to Jinja, according to the town clerk, Charles Katarikawe. Three hotels are scheduled to go up in the city, which is an hour's drive east of Kampala, the capital. A fish-processing plant has opened, and a textile factory is planned. Economic prosperity has sparked a con-

struction boom here. Formerly vacant lots are stacked with bricks for new homes, a picture that is repeated throughout Uganda. Haim Gonen, 59, an Israeli, came to Jinja

late last year to establish a plant that will process soybeans and sunflower seeds into cooking oil and various foods. He said he was attracted by Jinja's inexpen-

sive land, cheap labor and benign bureaucracy. He bought about six hectares (15 acres) of land for \$9,000, pays workers \$65 a month and got government approval for his business venture in less than three weeks.

"In my country, I would have to talk to the environmental people and then the religious people and then the fire brigade," Mr. Gonen said. "If I try to start a business like this in Israel, for two or three years I suffer."

Jinja had once been flush with such businesses. Then during the early 1970s, Marshal Amin, as he styled himself, tossed out Ugandans of Indian descent, devastating the economies of cities where Indian Ugandans owned 70 percent of the businesses.

Today, they are back. They have reopened sugar and soap factories and a brewery and have launched a steel enterprise as well a packaging operation. The sugar refinery em-ploys 7,500 people. More than 5,000 Indian Ugandan entrepreneurs have returned since the mid-1980s to reestablish businesses.

"We came back because we are Ugandans, and our roots are here," said K.P. Eswar, a senior executive of the Madhvani Group, the dominant company in Jinja. "Things are definitely much better. There is security and stability now, and without those things, no businessman is going to risk investing here."

ut critics of Mr. Museveni's say he risks Uganda's security and stability by sometimes employing repressive tactics against opponents.

"He is a sanitized version of Pinochet," said Charles Onyango-Obbo, referring to the former Chilean dictator. Mr. Onyango-Obbo is editor of the Monitor, a newspaper often critical of Mr. Museveni, which recently published a poll that found 66.5 percent of respondents did not think they were economically better off than three years ago.

Two years ago, Mr. Museveni's administration banned government agencies from advertising in the Monitor, cutting the paper's ad revenue by 60 percent.

"Museveni has decided that certain things must be done, certain rights frozen for the sake of keeping people focused on the economy," Mr. Onyango-Obbo said, adding that two journalists were arrested late last year.

The government has banned a civic-educa-tion group headed by Solomy Balungi Bossa, a prominent Kampala lawyer. They accused us of recruiting people for

the opposition," she said. "When he first said no parties, we embraced that as a welcome break after all the ethnic hatred we had suffered," Miss Bossa said. "Now, we need to begin taking steps toward pluralism again. They say that politi-cal parties will create instability, but they

don't even try it." In recent months, outbreaks of fighting between rebels and security forces have killed hundreds of Ugandans. Miss Bossa blames this in part on "the bottling up of ideas."

Some Ugandan activists complained that Western donors had not held Mr. Museveni accountable for political abuses. They said the West has ignored such abuses in part because Uganda has an assembly writing a

new constitution, and Mr. Museveni has agreed to presidential elections.

"He's been held to a different standard because he brought peace and stability to this country," a high-level U.S. official in Uganda

Some in Uganda, however, say it is unrealistic to believe the government can balance democracy and economic development.

"If you have democracy and the people are poor, then they cannot see the direct benefits of democracy," said Razaq Afolabi Olopoenia, an economist at Makerere University in Kampala. "If you try to have full democracy at this stage of development, you may bring back chaos.

Competing Visions. Of Algeria Society **Rip Nation Apart**

Military Chiefs Vow Mosques Will Never Direct State Policy

By Nora Boustany Washington Past Service

ALGIERS - Just before unrise on the Muslim Sabbath, the muezzin's first call to prayer was the only sound echoing through the Kouba neighborhood of Algiers — until a car bomb shook residents awake. The targeted families of policemen shricked in terror. But in the darkness nearby, the wives of jailed Islamic militants ulu-

lated with joy.
Algeria's bloody struggle between a determined fundamentalist underground and a discredited secular government based mainly on the military — is replete with such incongru-

"We are killing one another, and as we self-destruct we can no longer analyze; we are just committing suicide," said Issa Qassemi, Algeria's top police spokesman.

Ashen-faced and unshaven. Mr. Qassemi trembled at the sight of the destruction around him last Friday morning in a residential compound housing the families of policemen mobi-

lized to combat terrorism.

The explosion wounded 63 people, the latest spasm in the violence that has consumed Algeria in the three years since the government canceled elections that Islamic political groups seemed set to win.

Two incompatible plans for Algerian society are ripping this nation apart, but the armybacked leadership has vowed that Algeria will never resemble Iran or Afghanistan and that mosques will never dictate government policy.
Interior Minister Abderrah-

mane Meziane-Cherif was categorical as he puffed on a cigar: "Never will Algeria live like Iran, Afghanistan or Sudan. We don't look like those countries, and we are geographically closer to the West. It would be like going back to the Spanish In-quisition.
"It is not the mosques who

will lead the presidency," he.

But exactly who leads the presidency of Liamine Zeroual, a military man not comfortable with politicians, remains a mys-

Three cabinet ministers said in interviews that they felt there was no trust among the populace in the current state leader-

In Mr. Meziane-Cherif's view, Algeria is doing the dirty work of other Arab and European countries who also are threatened by terrorism.

The stability of Algeria, flanked by Tunisia and Morocco, has become a worry for European nations on the other side of the Mediterranean. France has 800,000 Algerians and 3 million French citizens of Algerian origin on its soil and sees its destiny linked to that of its former North African colony.
On the surface, the conflict

appears simple. What began as a political crisis three years ago with the annulment of elections by the government and the official disbanding of the Islamic Salvation Front, however, has taken on complex cultural and socioeconomic dimensions.

This country of 26 million, in which national identity has been in ferment since it won independence in 1962 after 130 years of French rule, is still in the stage of awkward transition from 30 years of one-party rule

process, begun when a new constitution in 1989 authorized political parties, appears doomed as the security situation deterio-

One segment of the population argues that the outcome of elections that gave the Islamic stances, it is difficult to consid-

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Front and Front for Socialist Forces should have been allowed to continue. Others argue that the Islamic Front should never have been legalized and

given the taste of power.
The Armed Islamic Group and other militant splinter groups have drawn social battle groups have drawn social battle lines in an attempt to dislodge a government that has excluded them from participation. Any-one perceived as linked in any way to the state, mainly the security forces, is sanctioned by these groups as a target for ter-

In all, 3,000 members of the security forces have been killed since the crisis began, the interior minister said.

Leading intellectuals, filmmakers, singers, journalists and aniversity professors also are being targeted and killed "to publicize the cause," an Algerian said. "It is to scare us and to force us to choose."

A bid by the present government to organize new presidential elections by the end of this year is seen by opposition par-ties and Islamic fundamentalists as an attempt to legitimize a repressive government

Last September, a group of Islamic militants sent an open letter to Mr. Zeroual alleging 36 summary executions in 1994. Mourad Benachenou, minister of industrial restructuring, responded to such accusations, however, by insisting that "the army is doing its job, protecting its citizens.

This is an exceptional situation," he said, "and we don't want anarchy to take charge."
In pamphlets, the Armed Islamic Group has threatened

death to anyone who votes in

the election Sagging oil prices and years of mismanagement of public companies are in part responsible for an economy that has left young people feeling left out of the job market. Racketeering and anarchy are imposing their own cruel rules on Algeria's so-ciety, and society is beginning to take matters into its own

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"Violence begins with a wellknown source with reasonable or identifiable objectives, but the longer it lasts, the more confusing it becomes, the more blind and the more uncontrollable," said Abdel Hamid Mehiri, secretary general of the National Liberation Front, who signed a national contract with other political parties, including the opposition and the Islamic

Front, in Rome in January. The government has rejected the document, which condemns the use of violence by all sides, saying it does not commit armed groups not under Islamic Front control to abandon ter-

Britain Suggests Mediation by EU

PARIS - Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd of Britian has called for a European Union imitiative to try to end the conflict between Algeria's armybacked government and Mus-lim fundamentalists.

But, in an interview to be published by the French daily Le Figaro on Thursday, he also expressed skepticism that anything effective could be done. Mr. Hurd said that diploma-

cy appeared to be the only way of to a multiparty system. of trying to prevent Algeria's

An interrupted democratic civil strife from turning into a disaster.
"I would gladly approve a

European initiative that would prevent a disaster by allowing talks between Algerians of all opinions," he said.

"But, under current circummilitants an edge over the tradi-tional National Liberation torical."

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U.S. Airlines Take the Food Out of Flying Food service accounts for a

By Anthony Faiola Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON --- Airlines in the United States are trimming fat from their in-flight food budgets.

Today, the chances of getting breakfast, lunch or dinner aboard a domestic flight of less than two hours are slim, a survey of seven major carriers shows. Even a costly first-class ticket, once the boarding pass to an airline's approximation of elegant dining, no longer guarantees a traveler more than a cocktail and a bag of honeyroasted peanuts.

But on international flights, U.S. carriers are charting the opposite course, embellishing their menus to compete with finer dining aboard foreign carriers. United Airlines, for example, juiced up food on transcontinental flights on March 1, robbing full-service carriers of a adding salmon dishes, cheese and crackers and a wider variety of wines. The company, said Larry DeShon, director of catering, used money it saved from cutbacks on domestic service to finance the upgrades.

"It's essential to stay compet-

doesn't pay not to keep up.'

have retooled their meal service over the last six months, and now some are rethinking the whole process of how they serve those meals. To save on distribution costs, for instance, American Airlines last month started handing out bagged breakfasts and lunches at ticket gates inside four airports, including Washington National and Baltimore Washington International.

Facing renewed competition from no-frills carriers, airline food - which had become the travelers' oxymoron — was the obvious place to cut, analysts say. Food budgets are more flexible than fuel and payroll budgets. But the trick, major carriers have found, is to find ways to trim the food without perk that distinguishes them from cut-rate competitors.

"The Southwests and Valu-Jets of the world are forcing the airlines into a situation where they must innovate, and food is one of those rare aspects of the airline industry that is relatively itive food-wise on our interna-tional routes," Mr. DeShon vice president of TravelScan, a tional routes," Mr. DeShon vice president of TravelScan, a said. "Food is a very visible Washington consulting firm.

element of airline service. It "Let's face it, how many people do you know board a plane because they're just dying to eat Most major domestic carriers airline food?"

On domestic long-haul flights, major airlines continue to offer food service, though less often than a year ago. On some short domestic routes with a large volume of business travelers — such as TWA's flights from Washington to St. Louis and United's flights from Chicago to Minneapolis meals are still included. But for a passenger to \$3.15. the most part these days, less food is the rule. The major carriers now do

not serve food on most flights of less than two hours. In first class, food is often not served on flights of less than 250 miles, and on economy-class trips of less than 500 miles. Breakfast is usually served

only on flights that take off before 8:30 A.M., lunch on flights taking off between 11:30 A.M. and 1:15 P.M. and dinner on flights between 5:30 and 7:30 P.M., the airlines say. To change the image of air-line food from something that requires prayer before eating,

cold foods, such as deli sand-

name-brand foods from such

significant portion of airline expenses. At USAir, for instance, domestic and international catering cost the company \$169 million in 1994, or 8 percent of its total operating expenses. That is higher than the industry average, which hovers around 4 or 5 percent. But by cutting food expenses on many flights, USAir trimmed its food per passenger by 27 percent over

Continental Airlines, with help from its Continental Lite flights that eliminated most food service, has cut in half the amount it spends on food per passenger since 1991, dropping from \$6.35 to \$3.25. Indeed, with the exception of TWA, every major U.S. carrier slashed food costs on domestic routes over the past three years, ac-

the past three years, from \$4.32

cording to TravelScan. "These cycles have happened in the past," said Harold Sirkin, vice president of Boston Consulting Group, a management firm. "In the mid-80s, we saw airlines try to do the same thing. major carriers have turned to But customers complained, and eventually, the airlines had to wiches and salads, and even bring the food back. We'll have to wait and see how passengers respond this time around."

TRAVEL UPDATE

Door Lock Is Cited in Ferry Sinking STOCKHOLM (AP) - Investigators have concluded that a weak door lock was one of the main reasons that an Estonian ferry sank last year, killing more than 900 people, a newspaper reported

The lower lock of the bow visor, a huge door that swung up to allow cars and trucks to be driven into the ferry, was too weak to withstand extremely heavy pounding by rough seas, according to a report by the international investigating commission. "The locking device was not designed as strongly as it should

have been, according to the calculations," the newspaper Dagens Nyheter reported, quoting from the unreleased report. The German airline Deutsche BA will stop flying between Frankfurt and Paris on March 25. A spokesman in Frankfurt said that several weeks after the airline began its service last April, two competitors, Lufthansa AG and Air France, increased the fre-

quency of their flights on the same route. Deutsche BA is 49 percent owned by British Airways. (Bloomberg) KLM Royal Dutch Airlines will increase its intercontinental flights this summer. The airline said it would operate 6,350 intercontinental flights in its summer schedule, which lasts from March 26 to Oct. 8, up 300 from the previous summer. Starting June 27, KLM will fly to Memphis, Tennessee.

ight out and will hire all-British crews to replace its Polish workers, said the company's director-general, Paul Desgris. The moves follow demands by French seamen's unions that the two Bahamas-registered ferries that travel between England and France employ crews from the European Union. Mr. Desgris did not name the buyer, but said the deal was

The British cross-Channel ferry company Meridian has been

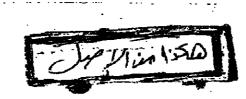
struck overnight Tuesday. The British crews would take over in May, he added. Fiji's tourism earnings jumped 15.4 percent in 1994, the Bureau of Statistics said Wednesday.

The bureau attributed the rise to the record number of people who visited Fiji in 1994. The number of tourists jumped 10.9 percent, to 318,874.



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INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1995

THE AMERICAS

POLITICAL NOTES

Republicans Face Hard Choices

WASHINGTON — The House Ways and Means Committee has approved the Republicans' tax-cut bill, a cornerstone of their "Contract With America" that would lower taxes by almost \$200 billion over the next five years.

But the action was tempered by the first signs of trouble in the Republicans' promise to compensate for the tax cuts by

cutting spending.

Party leaders had to concede that they were hard-pressed to win support for even a first, modest round of spending

Republicans have asserted that they will pay for the tax cuts with equivalent spending reductions so that the deficit will not be worsened, but they have never specified how they

Opposition to the spending cuts began to gel as lawmakers realized how their own districts would be affected. (NYT)



President Bill Clinton waving a "spork" — half spoon, half fork - which, he jokingly told journalists, was his solution to the controversial school-lunch issue.

Thrifty Clinton Unveils Innovation

WASHINGTON - President Bill Clinton has some novel ideas for cutting the government bureaucracy, like putting national holidays up for corporate sponsorship.

With tongue firmly in cheek, Mr. Clinton reeled off his suggestions at the annual dinner of Washington's Radio and

Television Correspondents Association. It all began, he said, as he and Vice President Al Gore spent a Saturday afternoon brainstorming on how to shrink government and save money.

The president waved in the air a white plastic spoon with fork tines attached. That, he said, represented his and Mr. Gore's best idea for

compromise on the school-lunch program, which the Republican majority in Congress contends is wastefully adminis-"This is a spork," the president said.

"This is a symbol of my administration," he continued. "No more false choices between right utensil and left utensil

"This is not an ideological choice.
"The is a big, new idea — the spork."

Senate Seeks a Milder Ban on Rules

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republicans say they may give up on trying to pass legislation to impose a moratorium on new federal regulations.

Instead, they may seek to pass an alternative that would ress 45 days to veto any new rules

"We're looking at other proposals," said the Government Affairs Committee chairman, William V. Roth Jr., Republi-can of Delaware, whose panel only last week approved the moratorium by a 6-to-5, party-line vote.

The regulatory moratorium was the second major proposal

of the House Republicans' "Contract with America" to undergo emergency legislative surgery in the Senate in less than a week, underscoring the difficulty that House-approved initiatives are having in the more cautious and skeptical

The other proposal — involving "line-item veto" authority for the president to car specific items from spending bills appeared to be moving toward a partial resolution, although it remained a long way from passage. (WP) remained a long way from passage.

Quote/ Unquote

Representative Jim McDermott, Democrat of Washington, on the strategy of Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee to drop nearly 100 amendments they had planned to offer in an effort to slow the Republican tax bill:

"It wouldn't make any difference if we put up an amendment to have the American flag be red, white and blue with 50 stars, we couldn't pass it."

(LAT)

Away From Politics

 The U.S. Judicial Conference, which sets policy for the nation's federal courts, has rejected a rule change that would have made it far easier to seal court records from public view. In other action, the conference, which is made up of top federal judges from around the nation, opened the door to an experiment allowing cameras in federal courtrooms. (WP)

 The military knew there were serious health risks of radioactive fallout from nuclear bomb testing in 1951 and, although a safer site was available, chose to explode weapons near populated areas in Nevada to get better data on where the fallout would go, according to documents uncovered by the President's Advisory Committee on Human Radiation Ex-

• Yale University said it would return a \$20 million gift to Lee M. Bass, a Texas financier and 1979 Yale alumnus. The announcement followed a series of articles in the Wall Street Journal capped by a scathing editorial that lambasted the Connecticut university for failing to carry out a Western civilization curriculum mandated in the 1991 donation. (LAT) • President Bill Clinton has nominated a veteran of the Gulf War and son of a Marine Corps general to be the next commandant of the Marines. The officer, Lieutenant General Charles C. Krulak, 53, would succeed General Carl E.

· California got a break from torrential rain that left behind dark, cozing mud, gushing streams, swollen reservoirs and 14 people dead. No rain was expected in Northern California

Out-of-Work Politicians Find Their Roost: Talk Radio

By Sam Howe Verhovek New York Times Service

DENVER - Last year, nearly a dozen talkradio hosts from around the country tried to jump from their studios to spots in Congress, most unsuccessfully. But for former politicians trying to vault to the other side of the micro-

phone, the trip seems to be much easier. Gary Hart, the former U.S. senator from Colorado, has just started "Heartland," a weekly program he describes as "thoughtful" talk radio.

"No screaming and shouting," he says, just serious, in-depth conversations with poets, nonfiction writers, journalists and an occasional

Three other erstwhile presidential candidates -Ross Perot and former Governors Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown of California and L. Douglas Wilder of Virginia — have more traditional call-in shows, with screaming and shouting. Oliver L. North an unsuccessful Senate candidate from Virginia last year, joined the fray this week, and former Governor Lowell P. Weicker Jr. of Connectiont is starting a program next month. Mario

M. Cuomo says he, too, will soon have a program -"not talk-talk, but thought-talk radio." promises the former New York governor. Why are so many former politicians getting on

the airwaves? "Because they're out of work, for one," said Michael Harrison, editor of Talkers, a trade publication for the talk-radio industry.

"And two," he said, "because they have bought into the notion that simply by being on talk radio one can easily build a power base and exert influence on public policy. Many of them are in for a big surprise, because just being on the radio doesn't guarantee those results."

To be sure, with the number of talk-format stations having quadrupled in the last decade. many politicians contend that talk radio is an increasingly important way to communicate and to inject their views into the public debate.

But others are less high-minded about it all. Talk radio, they say, is fun. It's even liberating.

"Politics and doing talk radio are almost at odds," said former Representative Ben Jones, who unsuccessfully tried to regain his congres-sional seat in Georgia from Newt Gingrich last ers. Having Fred holding on line three about the governor of California. "It still is.

year and who is now an occasional host on WGST-AM in Atlanta.

"Politicians are so unctuous as a rule, always trying to please and not offend," Mr. Jones said. It's fun as a former politician to be able to go on; when someone calls in and you're not worried about their vote, you can just tell them to kiss" a part of the host's anatomy.

Just how successful these programs will be, in many cases, remains to be seen. Mr. Hart and Mr. Wilder, for instance, are broadcast only from stations in their home states for now, although their programs' producers hope to syndicate them nationally later.

Equally compelling is the question of whether the slower-paced format advocated by people like Mr. Hart and Mr. Cuomo can succeed.

"My approach requires a paragraph and not a slogan," said Mr. Cuomo, who had a monthly call-in program when he was governor. "If you do shibboleths, the other side has all the

Mr. Hart insisted that many people had told him they appreciated his format, which so far has

about the death penalty is just too distracting, he

He also vehemently rejected suggestions from some experts that programs like his might be doomed because however good politicians are at talking, a good talk-radio host also has to know how to listen.

"If I had any genius at all in politics - and I probably didn't - it was listening," he said. "I was a great listener."

Many of the recent entrants and soon-to-be entrants into talk radio are Democrats - Mr. Brown, Mr. Cuomo, Mr. Hart, Mr. Jones and Mr. Wilder, for example - but Republicans are represented with Mr. North and Patrick J. Buchanan, Mr. Weicker and Mr. Perot are independents.

Talk radio appears to have thrived in part on anger, although that has never adequately explained why conservative-oriented programs are more successful than those from the other side of the spectrum. Liberals can get just as mad.

"I went into the Jesuit seminary 35 years ago because I thought the world was going to hell," not included solicitation of calls from his listen- said Mr. Brown, who later emerged to become

Simpson Defense Pursues Suggestion That Detective Is Racist

LOS ANGELES — A police testimony.

Letective, Mark Fuhrman, testicied at O. J. Simpson's trial tive, asking, "So that anyone wednesday that he never used a who comes to this court and detective, Mark Fuhrman, testified at O. J. Simpson's trial Wednesday that he never used a racial slur against blacks in the last decade and said anybody

"You say under oath that you have not addressed any black person as a nigger or spoken about black people as niggers in the past 10 years, Detective Fuhrman?" asked F. Lee Bailey, one of Mr. Simpson's defense attornevs.

quotes you as using that word in dealing with African-Ameriwho suggested he had was a liar. cans would be a liar, would they not, Detective Fuhrman?"
"Yes, they would," Mr. Fuhr-

man said.

Ito heard bitter arguments be-"That's what I'm saying, sir," tween Mr. Bailey and the lead Mr. Fuhrman responded in the prosecutor, Marcia Clark, but

Sergeant Max Cordoba.

who hates blacks, particularly "control yourself, sir," had Fuhrman could have transportthose who associate with white women, and that he may have consider his decision. The judge crime scene in a bag stuffed into
framed Mr. Simpson in the refused to budge, telling Mr. his sock. "All of them?"

June 12 slayings of his former
"All of them," the detective
"All of them," the detectiv Before the cross-examination on Wednesday, Judge Lance A. football star, is black. His late wife and Mr. Goldman were

against the accusation that he had lied when he said in court Tuesday that he had spoken "Marine to Marine" with Serwhite. geant Cordoba. In an interview
Judge Ito restricted the debroadcast Tuesday night on the

that Mr. Fuhrman is a racist mad the judge had to tell him to to try to illustrate that Mr.

Outlining his theory with the jury out of the courtroom, the defense lawyer contended that Mr. Fuhrman had the "motive and the opportunity' to tamper with evidence to implicate Mr.

Simpson in the slayings.

Mr. Bailey suggested that

monotone that has marked his testimony.

Mr. Bailey pressed the detective, asking, "So that anyone who comes to this court and who comes to this court and compared the defense immediately question Mr. Fuhrman after Ms. Clark about whether he uttered the screen to a black Marine, who comes to this court and compared to the defense use as an exhibit a sin one of his socks. When Mr. Tuhrman after Ms. Clark accused Mr. Bailey of lying about his conversation with Sergeant Cordoba.

Mr. Fuhrman after Ms. Clark line," the sergeant said he had at the murder scene while no never spoken with Mr. Bailey.

Judge Ito also refused to let the defense use as an exhibit a in one of his socks. When Mr. Fuhrman went to the Simpson estate two miles away, he would have had the opportunity to drop the glove on a walkway behind a guesthouse and claim later that he had found it there.

Ms. Clark noted that the glove the defense wanted to use was a small glove, while the gloves found in the Simpson case were extra-large. "Size small," she said. "I guess it's Mr. Bailey's." (AP, Reuters)

Salinas Set To Travel Indefinitely

By Sam Dillon New York Times Service

NEW YORK -- Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the former president of Mexico who was said to have been forced into virtual exile over the weekend by his Manhattan's East Side, eager to dismiss that version of events.

"Can I return to Mexico?" Mr. Salinas, 46, said in an interview. "At any moment! Yes!" He paused, then added: "But I don't have plans now to do so." Mr. Salinas phoned The New

York Times on Tuesday, and, in a subsequent interview, quibbled with the portrait that has been painted of him in Mexico, as a man virtually without a country, forced into exile by President Ernesto Zedillo, who succeeded him on Dec. 1.

Senior aides to Mr. Zedillo have given that version of events since Sunday, after Mr. Salinas boarded a private jet Friday and flew to Texas and on to New York City the same

Mr. Salinas had broken a rigid political taboo by quarreling publicly with his successor over who was to blame for the collapse of Mexico's currency, and had become an embarrassment after the arrest of his brother on murder charges.

In an interview in the fivestory brownstone building that is the official residence of Mexico's representative to the United Nations, Mr. Salinas declined to speak for the record about his country's economic and political crises, saying he feared his comments would undermine what little stability Mr. Zedillo has been able to restore

Because he spoke guardedly, and at times enigmatically, his current status remained a bit of a mystery. But he outlined his immediate intentions in broad strokes, saying he planned to travel indefinitely, contemplating his future role and engaging "small private dialogues that

I've been invited to." "You could call them speech-

es," he said.
"I have plans to continue traveling here in the U.S. and abroad, most probably abroad," Mr. Salinas said. "My children continue in school in Mexico City, and my wife is with them."

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CITATION VII

By Tim Golden New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — Hoping to entice peasant rebels in the southern state of Chiapas to join new peace talks, the Mexican government says it will move army troops out of villages within the territory formerly controlled by the insur-

A spokesman for the Interior Ministry also said Tuesday that the government would formally suspend arrest warrants issued last month against six accused al Liberation Army.

the same time, the redeploy-

ment fell short of the insur-

withdrawal of the thousands of

soldiers who swept into the area

on Feb. 9, and some observers

were skeptical that it would

have the desired effect

Mexico to Pull Back Soldiers in Chiapas

ringing right away," said a member of the commission me-The promised troop movediating between the two sides. ments appeared to represent a Raymundo Sánchez Barraza. more significant concession playing down the hopes for a than government officials had breakthrough in the situation. indicated the army was pre-

"This merely formalizes the pared to make in order to revive negotiations on a settlement to positions of the army," he said. the 15-month-old conflict. At Indeed, it remained unclear whether any government troops would be pulled out of the swath of the Lacandon rain forgents' demand for a full-scale est in which the Zapatistas were allowed to operate freely during the 13-month cease-fire that followed their uprising against the state on Jan. 1, 1994.

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Ramos Predicts Sharp Decline in Philippine Poverty

LONDON - The Philippine president, Fidel V. Ramos, predicted Wednesday that the rapid growth of his country's economy would radically reduce the poverty rate by the end of his term in

Forty-five percent of Filipinos now live below the poverty line. By the time he leaves office, Mr.

Ramos said, the rate may be as low as 20 percent. The president called his country's economic performance a vindication for Philippine-style democracy. Growth is expected to be as high as

"What we are trying to say is that economic growth and sustainable development is possible term, that country might be in trouble," he said.

under a democratic framework in the Asia-Pacific region," Mr. Ramos said in an interview. "We would be happy to transfer this technology to others who are interested."

While conceding that democracy was far from the easy course and that indeed it imposed a "short term handicap" on efforts to achieve rapid growth, he forecast that in the long run democratic systems would win out.

Mr. Ramos contrasted Philippine democracy with the authoritarian political systems in place in much of the region and contended that there may yet be a price to be paid for those closed

"Unless a political system has continuity. transparency and predictability over the long

He also contrasted the approach of the Philip-pines — from dealing with its various political and religious rebel groups to policies toward bridging the gap between rich and poor - with those of some of its neighbors.

Ramos said. "And we have massively addressed

Specifically, he cited the government's successes in breaking up cartels that had dominated the economy for decades and the placement of 10 percent of the proceeds of large scale-privatizations in various social "safety net" programs.

As for the rebels, the president noted that negotiations with Muslim groups were continuing to make progress, while the head of the privately.

military rebel group had recently disarmed and announced his candidacy for the Senate.

The first face-to-face negotiations on another thorny issue, territorial claims by China to Mischief Reef in the South China Sea, within the "We have a peace process going on with our resistance that some countries don't have," Mr. are set to begin on Sunday. Mr. Rames conceded that the climate leading up to the bilateral talks was only "slightly favorable."

He called China's claims to vast stretches of the South China Sea a "regional" problem, but said he had not been disappointed over the lack of public backing from other members of the Association of South East Asian Nations for Manila's position. Mr. Ramos said several of those governments had expressed support



The Tibet official Raidi speaking in Beijing, where he ruled out any possible referendum on China's control of Tibet.

Breaking Taboo, China to Weigh Legal Euthanasia

BELING — China's Parliament is to study a motion to legalize euthanasia, despite strong opposition to the practice, which goes against deep-rooted Chinese traditions.

The motion, presented by more than 30 deputies to the National People's Congress, calls for a law that would allow technically advanced hospitals in large cities to carry out euthanasia on terminally ill patients, the official Xinhua press

agency said Wednesday.



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The operation would require the approval of two medical experts and would only be used to "alleviate the suffering of pa-tients and their relatives, and to safeguard the dignity of life," the agency reported.

Euthanasia must be requested by the patient and must receive the permission of relatives, according to the motion submitted by congressional deputies from Beijing and Hubei and Fujian provinces.

The issue of mercy killing became a hot media topic after a 54-year-old was sentenced to three years in jail last week for having helped his wife commit

The man was cleared of mur der after the discovery of a note that his wife had written absolving him of responsibility. His sentence was for abetting a sui-

The case set off heated discussions on radio talk shows, with many callers emphasizing the traditional Chinese concept that the body is a gift from the parents and therefore cannot be destroyed at will.

regarded as betraying tradition, practice was legalized. and may cause resentment among those who argue that a cations, the question of eutha-bad life is better than a happy nasia is complicated by the lack death," said Hu Yamei, a sup-of a specific definition in China porter of the motion and the for what constitutes death. This

Beijing declared its willingness ceased to function.

"Euthanasia is likely to be to perform euthanasia once the Apart from the moral implihonorary president of the Beij- is especially important in the ing Children's Hospital. case of patients who are kept Last year, a major hospital in alive after their brains have

Is Called a Ploy to Split China autonomous region, 14 years af-ter its miliary takeover of Tibet. BEIJING — A high-ranking official criticized a plan by the Unconfirmed reports have Dalai Lama for a referendum

Backers of Beijing

In Tibet Reject Vote

Dalai Lama's Referendum Plan

among Tibetans on their cam-The Tibet Autonomous Region is an autonomous region under the sovereignty of China,

so the question of holding a referendum here simply does not arise," said Raidi, the chairman of the Tibet People's Congress's standing committee.
"Tibet is an inalienable part of China," he added. "The proposed referendum is only a

mean trick by the Dalai clique and some anti-China Western forces to split China. This is entirely out of the question."
The Tibetan spiritual leader,

who has been in exile in India since fleeing his homeland with many followers after a failed anti-Chinese revolt on March 1959, called last week for Tibetans to prepare for a referen-

In a statement released to mark the 36th anniversary of the uprising, he also warned that Beijing's refusal to negoti-ate with him could lead to violence in Tibet.

The warning by the Dalai Lama, who himself has always rejected the use of force, came amid rising tension before the 30th anniversary in September of China's decision to set up the

detailed numerous demonstrations and arrests of mms and paign for independence, saying monks in recent months, while Wednesday it was a "mean human rights groups have cited trick" aimed at splitting China. ments as saying security forces are on alert amid fears of a separatist campaign to sabotage Mr. Raidi offered little hope

Wednesday of the possibility of any change in Beijing's policy on negotiations. He said that, while the "the central government has always kept the door open in this regard," the Dalai Lama had "created obstacles."

"Once the Dalai Lama renounces his position of Tibetan independence and entirely stops all his activities aimed at splitting China, the central gov-ernment will be happy to see him putting an end to his selfexile at an early date," he said.

He could then "come back to China to do something useful and good for the prosperity and happiness of the Tibetan peo-ple," the official said.

Mr. Raidi acknowledged that "since September 1987, there have been many uprisings in the province of Tibet on different scales," but he maintained that the majority of people in Ti-bet, including monks and la-mas, are firmly opposed to sep-aratist activities and that has

BRIEFLY ASIA

Kabul Counterattack Regains Base

KABUL - Forces of the Taleban student militia overran a pro-government base west of Kabul on Wednesday but were later pushed back in a counterattack, a government commander said.

In a move to fight their way into the capital, Taleban militiamen took just 30 minutes to capture the Qala-i-Hyder base on the western entrance to the city, according to the commander, Daigul Khan.

But he said the government military command had brought to the front line some of its most experienced fighters from the 100th Division, who pushed the Taleban back into the hills about three kilometers (two miles) to the west after an eight-

Bhutto's Brother Forms New Party

KARACHI, Pakistan - The estranged brother of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto founded a competing political party Wednesday and called for the resignation of the government. "There is no governance," Murtaza Bhutto told about 2,000 cheering supporters gathered under huge tent at the Bhutto family estate in Karachi, a city plagued by violence. "The government has failed to provide security." (AP)

U.S. Defends East Asia Aid Budget

WASHINGTON — Because East Asian economies are doing well, the United States wants to wean the region away from aid and toward trade and investment for its future

prosperity, the Clinton administration said.

The \$282 million allocated for East Asia and the Pacific in the fiscal year starting in October is just 2.65 percent of the \$10.5 billion U.S. foreign aid budget, said Winston Lord, assistant secretary of state for the region.

While "extremely small," this is a fitting proportion "given the dynamic economies of the region." Mr. Lord told a U.S.

Senate Appropriations subcommittee Tuesday.

India Budget Unveils Aid for Poor

NEW DELHI — The government vowed Wednesday to carry forward its free-market reforms, but also unveiled programs for the poor that are aimed at silencing its critics. Ignoring shouts and jeers by opposition legislators, Finance Minister Manmohan Singh, who began the reforms four years ago, presented Parliament with the government's new budget. It came shortly after the governing Congress (I) Party suffered

a series of setbacks in elections for state legislatures.

Mr. Singh said the government would give top priority to fighting inflation. The 1.7 trillion rupee (\$55 billion) budget also contains rural development programs to reduce unem-ployment, build 5 million houses for the poor and guarantee minimum old-age pensions.

VOICES From Asia

President Kim Young Sam of South Korea, returning home Wednesday from a two-week tour of six European countries: "I was able to sense clearly that advanced countries in Europe regard Korea as a very important partner in the world arena."

Kuniaki Niida, fund manager for Nissan Fire & Marine Asset Management, on the Japanese government bond market: "When stocks go down, bonds are happy. When stocks go up, bonds don't believe the gains are for real." (Bloomberg) Yasuo Matsushita, the Bank of Japan governor, as the U.S. dollar bought little more than 90 year. The current exchange rate doesn't reflect economic situations."

Takashi Tamaki, head of the Regional Banks Association in Japan, announcing that the group had reaffirmed its pledge to invest 5.6 billion yen to bail out two nearly bankrupt credit unions at the center of a loan scandal: "We cannot disclose how the debate has proceeded, but there were no objections ultimately. There was no ovation either." (AFP)

Even Fellow Asians Attack Courts in Singapore

By Philip Shenon

MANILA — The govern-ment of Singapore, which has tried to portray the debate over its draconian legal system as a clash between Asian and West- 1991. ern values, now finds its courts under attack by fellow Asians who are campaigning to prevent the execution of a Philip-

pine woman later this week. Leading Philippine politi-

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tion of Flor Contemplacion, a Philippine maid who is scheduled to be hanged on Friday for the deaths of another maid and a 4-year-old Singaporean boy in

> President Fidel V. Ramos has joined in the appeals, asking that Singaporean prosecutors reopen the case because of new testimony suggesting that Mrs. Contemplation was framed, and that the other Philippine maid was actually killed by her vengeful Singaporean employer after the boy had accidentally

The testimony is coming from a third maid, Emilia Frenilla, who has since returned home to the Philippines. Mrs.

Khmer Rouge Drive Halted

PHNOM PENH - Government troops have pushed back about 400 Khmer Rouge guerrillas trying to encircle Battambang, Cambodia's second largest city, a senior government commander said Wednesday.

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LONDON MAYFAIR

who was supposed to be caring for the child

According to her testimony, Mrs. Frenilla eavesdropped on members of the boy's family as they decided to pin both deaths on Mrs. Contemplacion, who was a friend of Mrs. Maga's.

Jaime Cardinal Sin, the head of the Roman Catholic Church in this predominantly Roman Catholic country, has said he will ask Pope John Paul II to intervene with the Singaporean government to save Mrs. Contemplacion from the gallows.

The case has made for banner headlines in newspapers in Mamila for weeks, turning this into the Philippine equivalent of last

At the time of the Fay case, Singaporean officials argued that their critics in the United States and elsewhere in the West did not understand Asian say, demand strict law enforcement and a preference for the rights of society over the rights of an individual.

But the reaction in the Philip-

of its Asian neighbors.

For many Filipinos, Mrs. symbolize the plight of millions of Filipinos who are forced by the poverty of their homeland to work abroad, most of them as household servants or construction workers elsewhere in

Asia or in the Middle East. "Every new revelation in the Contemplacion case seems to point at a frame-up and a mis-carriage of justice," the Philip-pine Daily Inquirer said in an editorial this week. "It's no longer Singapore's goodwill and compassion that are being put to a test here. What's on

protests by supporters of Mrs. Contemplacion, did not respond to written questions about the case. In turning down earlier appeals for clemency, values, which, the Singaporeans Singapore has said that she reccived a fair trial.

Mrs. Contemplacion, 42, worked as a maid in Singapore to support her unemployed hus-band and their four children for the deaths in a shoot-out.

cians, human rights groups and church leaders are demanding that Singapore stay the execution of Mrs. back in the Philippines. The Contemplacion suggests that children, who had not seen their balled the maid, Della Maga, Singapore's concept of Asian mother in four years, were alvalues is not one shared by all lowed to travel to Singapore this month for a final reunion. According to Philippine offi-

Contemplation has come to cials, Mrs. Contemplation initially pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity on the advice of her Singaporean lawyers. Her lawyers said that she suffered a type of epilepsy that limited her responsibility for her actions. But the court rejected the

plea and sentenced Mrs. Contemplacion to death. News reports here have suggested that Mrs. Contemplacion had nothing to do with the crime but claimed mental illness on the advice of the lawyers, in hopes of a lesser sentence should she be found guilty. Mrs. Contemplacion was arrested in the two killings in 1991.

The uproar over her fate followed a furor here in January over the execution of three Filipino contract workers in Saudi Arabia. They were beheaded after they were accused of holding an influential Arab family hostage and then killing four of them. Details of the case were never made public by Saudi officials; although news accounts here have suggested that the Saudi police were responsible

By Senate By R. Jeffrey Smith Washington Post Service

Dole Seeks

Scrutiny of

Korea Deal

WASHINGTON - The leader of the Senate's majority Republicans, Bob Dole, has questioned the Clinton administration's decision to treat its nuclear accord with North Korea as a nonbinding political deal rather than a treaty subject to congressional approval.

Mr. Dole acted after three Republican Senate committee chairmen said in a joint letter that the accord should be considered a treaty.

Under the accord, North Korea will give up a nuclear program seen by the West as weapons-making project. In return, it will get nuclear power plants that have less capability for nuclear arms production. The deal is to be financed largely by South Korea and Japan.

"The formal treaty ratification process will enable us to undertake a detailed factual analysis to determine whether this agreement is in the national interest," the heads of the Foreign Relations, Energy and Natural Resources and Select Committee on Intelligence told Mr. Dole.

The Kansas Republican responded by demanding in a let-ter to Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher that the administration turn over internal legal memorandums about the "prospective or actual treatment" of the accord. Mr. Dole also said point and by whom" the decision had been made not to han-

While some Republican lawmakers who dislike the treaty have said they resent not having a chance to reject it, others ap-pear to relish the fact they can criticize the accord without being blamed for torpedoing it.

Robert L Gallucci, the am-bassador-at-large who signed the accord for the United States, has said that Congress can approve or disapprove the accord when it votes on annual administration requests for an estimated \$20 million to carry out the deal.

trial is its system of justice." year's furor over the flogging of The Singaporean Embassy in Manila, which has been the tar-Shareholder Value Frenilla has said that the boy a U.S. teenager, Michael P. Fay, drowned in a bathtub after sufwho pleaded guilty to vandalget this week of telephoned ism in Singapore. bomb threats and of several

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One Last Voyage for Asia's Refugees UN Wants Indochinese Still in Camps to Return Home

GENEVA - Thirty countries are expected to rule here refugee camps no longer qualify for international aid and should

return home. The refugees, in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Thailand and elsewhere, are the remnants of the more than 1.2 million people who fled Communist Indochina since 1975.

Most of those who survived were given asylum in Western countries, including Australia. Britain, Canada, France, New Zealand and the United States year. after passing through the refugee camps.

Those who are left, usually the more recent arrivals, are that it is time to go home, and classified as "economic mi- we need the clout of all the such as has been carried our by

considered to be political refu-

The United Nations High Thursday that 60,000 Vietnam- Commissioner for Refugees ese and Laotians living in Asian said that only 5.5 percent of the 839,000 people who left Viet-nam since 1975, when the nation was reunified, are still in

> Laos, 3.2 percent remain in first asylum countries, it added.

Sylvana Foa of the UN refugee agency said that the meeting Thursday would be to see how it would be possible to wrap up the aid program this

"We can't continue this program for ever," she said. We have to tell those people

Her colleague, Ruth Marshall, said international donors were no longer interested in providing aid. She noted that 70,000 Viet-

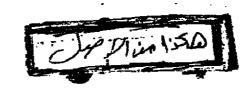
namese and 21,000 Laotians he wanted to know "at what had returned home, with a small allowance, where they benefited from resettlement die the accord as a treaty. ograms financed principally by the European Union. The agency's monitoring

teams, "which randomly visit returnees, have never uncovered any convincing cases of official harassment or of discrimination against any of those returning." Ms. Marshall

She stressed that the agency's policy is not to cooperate with the forced return of refugees, grants" seeking a better materiolife overseas and they are not voice."

We note that the speak with one Hong Kong under an agreement with Vietnam.





Russian Budget Clears Way for IMF Loan

MOSCOW - Russia's Parliament approved the 1995 budget on Wednesday, and Finance Minister Vladimir G. Panskov said the decision meant Russia had moved on to a "civilized path of develop-

terck Regains Base!

The State Duma, the lower house of Parliament, approved the draft budget, 289 to 81 with no abstentions, on its fourth and final reading, clearing another hurdle to a \$6.4 billion standby loan from the International Monetary Fund.

"Passing the budget in the Duma means the country has moved onto a civilized

after the vote.

The budget envisages expenditure of 248.34 trillion rubles (\$53 billion) and income of 175.16 trillion rubles for a deficit of 73.18 trillion rubles.

Mr. Panskov said the deficit, originally put at 7.8 percent of gross domestic prod-uct, would in fact be 5.6 percent, as GDP would be greater than first calculated.

Passing, and sticking to, a tight 1995 budget has been a key condition for Moscow's winning the standby loan, which will be used to plug the deficit.

The IMF's managing director, Michel

path of development," Mr. Panskov said Camdessus, in Moscow last week to sign an agreement on the loan, gave his blessing to the government's economic program.

He said he was sure the IMF board would give final approval for the loan in

First Deputy Prime Minister Anatoli B. Chubais said the key task now was ensuring the budget was met.

The government and central bank said Tuesday that they would seek to cut monthly inflation to one percent by the second half of the year. February's rate

BRIEFLY EUROPE



Castro Accedes on Rights

PARIS (Reuters) — President Fidel Castro of Cuba, rejecting accusations that he sanc-tions violent repression in Cuba, on Wednes-day invited a French human-rights group to visit Cuba to investigate conditions for politi-

But Mr. Castro, 68, on his first visit to France, turned down a plea by President François Mitterrand's wife, Danielle, to abolish the death penalty, saying the Caribbean island faced too many threats, including a "criminal and unjust" U.S. embargo.

At their meeting, Mrs. Mitterrand gave Mr. Castro a list of 43 political detainees in Cuba. "I have promised to examine the cases," Mr. Castro said, adding that a human-rights delegation was welcome to visit and examine the prisoners' "situation" as soon as possible.

Council Hears Rushdie

LONDON (Reuters) — The British writer Salman Rushdie came out of hiding on Wednesday to address a meeting of Parliament members from the Council of Europe. Mr. Rushdie, who has been living for six years under an Iraman death sentence imposed for blasphemy against Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses," appeared at a meeting of the 34-nation political group flanked by officers from an elite British police

The council, meeting in London for two days, was due to adopt a resolution expressing deep concern over the death edict and condemning the incitation to murder constituted by the decree and the huge reward offered to Muslims to carry it out.

Lockerbie Probe Urged

Korea Da

Br Senak

STRASBOURG (Reuters) - Relatives of Britons killed in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Scotland asked the European Commission on Wednesday to investigate the disaster, especially the question of airport security.
"Six years after the offense no one has been

tried for the bombing," says a statement explaining a petition presented to the European Parliament by U.K. Families Flight 103, named after the London-to-New York flight. The petition asks the European Union assembly to push the commission to make a statement about the bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, which killed 259 passengers and 11 people on the ground.

Slovenia-EU Talks Begin

BRUSSELS (AP) — Slovenia on Wednesday became the first former Yugoslav republic to open talks with the European Union for an accord that should open the way to eventu-

al EU membership. Foreign Minister Zoran Thaler of Slovenia began talks at EU headquarters 10 days after Italy dropped its veto on negotiations with its neighbor. Mr. Thaler said the trade and cooperation accord could be concluded before June, placing Slovenia at the front of a line of

European Union events, Thursday, March 16: BRUSSELS: Meeting between the EU commissioners, Sir Leon Brittan, in charge of external trade and relations with industrialized countries, Karel van Miert, in charge of competition, and Vladimir Dlouhy, the Czech Republic's industry minister.

BRUSSELS: Sir Leon meets with Françis Doubin, president of the European group for the promotion of international trade. EPINAL, France: Franz Fischler, the EU

agriculture commissioner, makes a speech at the French National Federation of Farmers'

STRASBOURG: The European Commission will make a declaration on recent monetary problems during a meeting of the European Parliament. The Council and the commission will discuss the nuclear power station in Mochovee, Slovakia.

BRUSSELS: Jacques Santer, president of the European Commission, meets Alwinde de Vos Van Steenwijk, president of the interna-tional movement ATD Fourth World.

GENEVA: Anita Gradin, commissioner for immigration and judicial affairs, will visit the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

Thousands Go Hungry In Bihac

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzeovina - Refusal of Serbs and their allies to let the United Nations feed tens of thousands of hungry people in the Bihac pocket is causing widespread hunger and malnutrition, aid officials said Wednesday.

Alemka Lisinski, a UN aid agency spokeswoman, said supplies brought in by the last food convoy, on Feb. 28, had been distributed to the most vulnera-ble of 200,000 needy in the enclave, the site of stubborn fighting between government troops, Bosnian Serbs and their Croatian Serbian and renegade Muslim allies.

The UN World Food Program, based in Rome, said only 5,000 of the 200,000 needy in the enclave received regular meals from public kitchens, and patients in the hospitals got only one meal a day.

In Sarajevo, Nina Winquist, a spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross, said the blockage of convoys by Croatian Serbs and ren-egade Muslims, who help Bosnian Serbs in their battle against government troops, was also hampering aid in the area.

President Franjo Tudjman of Croatia, meanwhile, left for Washington for meetings with U.S. and UN leaders on the first anniversary of a U.S.-brokered agreement, setting up a federation of Bosnian Croats and Muslims with close ties to

Record Number Of Journalists Killed in 1994

The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS, New York — A record number of reporters worldwide were killed or jailed for their work last year. including 19 killed in Algeria and 74 imprisoned by Turkey, a journalism group says.

The 72 reporters killed included 14 who were killed in war zones in Bosnia, Somalia, Angola, Chechnya and Rwan-da, the Committee to Protect Journalists said in a report Wednesday.

Fifteen more reporters were victims of ethnic massacres in Rwanda. In 1993, 64 reporters were killed around the world.

A total of 173 journalists were jailed worldwide last year, the report said.

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Israel Holds 2 in Probe of Stolen French Art Works

JERUSALEM — Israeli police are try-ing to determine whether canvasses recovered in Israel are masterpieces by Van Gogh, Picasso and Degas stolen in France last month, a police spokesman said

A 53-year-old tourist from France and a Tel Aviv art dealer were in police custody

A house rented by the Frenchman in the car was searched, and eight more canvasses were found, including works apparently by Van Gogh, Picasso, and Degas, the spokesman said.

Acting on a tip, he said, police officers stopped a car in Jerusalem on Saturday and found six works of art in it.

A house rented by the Fernal The works, which were Israeli experts

"When the pictures were found in his flat," the spokesman said, "the tourist said he bought them from a peddler in Paris for several thousand dollars, and brought

EUROPEAN TOPICS

French Slang Likely To Have Last Word

Not so very long ago, French bakers or fish sellers had their own colorful jargon, and the people of Courbevoie, a Paris suburb, had an accent noticeably different from that

of neighboring Puteaux. But today's standardized, homogenized French, its influence spread by the broadcast media, will not have "le dernier mot," insists Jean-Pierre Goudailler, a Sorbonne

linguistics professor. Staff members at his Center for Argot Research have found, for example, that butchers in Paris's 13th arron-dissement still use a type of

letter of a word with an "l," moving the first letter to the end and adding a suffix. And Parisian louchebem is different from that of Lyon.

Especially vital are the argots of the young and those on society's fringes (the hood-lums of Pigalle had their own argot before World War II), reports the daily Le Figaro. Prestigious schools like the Ecole Polytechnique and the Saint-Cyr military academy have their versions, which each new cadet is expected to learn.

The backwards language known as verlan (itself a back-wards version of Penvers, the word for backwards), which originated in underworld circles in the 16th century, has made a big comeback among the young. But now Arabic, African and Gypsy words are "verlanized" as well. Popular rap singers like MC Solaar (whose contribution to the language was recognized by

of French linguistic purity) have played a big role.

Change is so rapid it can be hard to follow. Thus flic, slang for "cop," was verlanized to keufli, shortened to keuf (not to be confused with meuf, the word for woman), then rever-lanized to feukeu. If in doubt, ask a teenager.

Around Europe Prostitution could be out-

lawed in Sweden, that pioneer of sexual freedom, if recommendations of a Health Ministry commission are adopted. The panel, citing the danger of AIDS, the links between prostitution and crime, and the potential for the exploitation of foreigners and young people in the sex trade, has called for fines or prison sentences of up to six months for prostitutes and their clients. "There are two trends in Europe," said the commission secre-tary, Lii Orlov-Lempert. "The first says it's a human right to argot called louchebem — no less than Culture Minister list says it's a human right to formed by replacing the first Jacques Toubon, a defender be a prostitute, the second

says it's a human right not to

The scene inside Kul Kafee,

a Copenhagen discotheque, can be disconcerting to the uninitiated. Young people dance or leap about, in unrelated rhythms, to the sound of - silence. No one talks, but everyone seems to be having a great time. Welcome to a new approach to nightclubbing: the Walkman disco.

"Yes, it can be impressive," says the club's manager. Jesper Nymark, "to stand at the bar and watch the people on the dance floor. Some are listening to techno, some to rock, others clearly have a romantic tape in their Walkman."

There are advantages for club owners, of course. No expensive sound system is required. And neighbors are unlikely to complain about the

Brian Knowlton

Ideas Follow Trade

In China's up-and-down relations with the United States, the mood and direction currently seem to be up. Toward the end of last year things got very bleak and scratchy with the American refusal to let China set its own terms for joining the new World Trade Organization. Early this year, for a time, they got worse with the quarrel over China's failure to enforce its own laws against copyright piracy. But then the two governments came to an agreement — at least in principle — over the piracy. Now the administration's trade negotiator, Mickey Kantor, has just spent an unexpectedly productive four days in Beijing. Out of these complex and abrasive trade talks, policies are emerging that can serve both countries well.

Chinese attitudes toward the United States are deeply ambivalent. Like many other countries, China wants access to American markets and American technology. Like many others, it resents the constant American nudging on human rights. But in the case of China, the Americans are making an unusually vigorous effort to introduce a truly radical and subversive idea — the rule of law. Frequently the trouble lies not in the laws but in the widespread flouting of them. Mr. Kantor went to China with a delegation of specialists from the U.S.

Customs Service, the FBI and the Justice and Commerce departments to offer training in the enforcement of intellectual property laws. The big violators tend to be companies with well-greased political con-nections, but Mr. Kantor ignored that point. He merely told his Chinese listeners repeatedly that they will never have a software industry of their own and the technical strength that it represents if they cannot provide reliable protection to copyright holders, domestic and foreign alike.

The Chinese debate whether respect for law and equal justice would not be a hindrance to them in their phenomenal economic growth. Mr. Kantor warned that, on the contrary, ignoring the law would profoundly threaten their progress.

On this central question, China is likely to keep moving back and forth for many years. But if the idea of orderly law enforcement takes hold in purely commercial areas - such as curbing theft of copyrighted movies, music and computer programs — it may spread. It may begin to affect Chinese attitudes in two other subjects of great importance to the rest of the world, arms control and human rights. The reasons for encouraging trade go well beyond economics. Ideas follow the trade routes.

- THE WASHINGTON POST

How to Help Pakistan

Violence is running out of control in Pakistan's port city of Karachi. More than 1,000 Pakistani lives have been lost in a year of disorder. Last week two American consular employees were killed and a third wounded when their van was ambushed on the city's main thoroughfare. There are domestic causes behind the unrest, like ethnic and religious conflicts, political rivalries and drug-turf battles. But Pakistan's troubled relations with the United States are also a factor.

Less than a decade ago, Washington saw Pakistan as a front-line Cold War ally and staging ground for U.S. aid to the anti-Communist Afghan resistance. Since Soviet troops withdrew from Kabul, relations have cooled considerably. Many Paki-stanis feel that Washington has left them to cope with toxic consequences of the Afghan war, including a flood of easily obtained assault weapons, increased drug trafficking and battle-hardened cadres of unemployed Islamic warriors.

Early next month Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto will come to Washington in an effort to shore up relations. Both sides have an interest in reducing tensions, but the Clinton administration must not do so at the expense of efforts to prevent the

spread of nuclear weapons.

Miss Bhutto, educated at Radcliffe and Oxford, presents herself as a marketopening reformer and a secular bulwark against Islamic radicalism. But her performance has been more ambiguous. Mindful of political vulnerabilities, she has steered scarce resources toward military procurement and ignored religious intolerance and persecution. She has also done little to curb the corruption in Pakistan's political parties, including her own.

The Clinton administration has recently been advertising its willingness to re-consider the virtual cutoff of American aid imposed in 1990 to punish Pakistan's effort to develop nuclear weapons. Miss Bhutto, under continuous pressure at home from military leaders, would dearly like to take home some concessions on this issue. It is in America's interest to strengthen her civilian, secular government, but she must provide credible curbs on Pakistan's nuclear program in exchange for any relief.

Washington also needs to press for more responsible Pakistani behavior in the dispute with India over Kashmir. India's repressive policies have been disastrous, but Pakistani support for crossborder terrorism has made matters worse and threatens international peace.

Finally, the Clinton administration might remind Miss Bhutto that her government can help reinforce democratic rule by paying more attention to the economic needs, security fears and democratic aspirations of the majority of Pakistanis who have twice elected her to high office.

- THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Hold the Champagne

old Yugoslavia, but hold the Champagne. The initiative's success may finally rest on military choices that the United States remains extremely reluctant to confront.

Croatia had threatened to kick out United Nations peacekeepers situated between it and the separatist Croatian Serb enclave of Krajina. Serbia proper might then have come in to rescue its kin. Muslim Bosnia might then have used Serbia's distraction to attack a similarly defiant Bosnian Serb enclave. Compared with the Serbs, Croatia and Bosnia, although hardly innocent, are the lesser troublemakers and the larger victims in the Yugoslav wars. They have a right to fight to reverse their losses, even though others may think that they are misguided in doing so. But if others are to tell them not to resist, then those others must have a better or an alternate idea.

In this instance, an idea comes from American diplomacy. Washington has persuaded Croatia to retain a UN presence, although it is meant to be a different presence, one that does not alienate Croatia from its sovereign territory in Krajina. Aware that it is setting up a new mission (halting Serbian gun-running)

A U.S. diplomatic initiative has avert- but providing no new military resources ed a wider war at least for a while in the to achieve it, the United States now offers Croatia a gesture: not the politically proscribed "troops," but a few GIs to act as, well, communications technicians.

It will fall to the Western countries which, unlike the United States, already have soldiers on the ground there to decide whether they wish to perform the difficult American-assigned task of guarding Croatia's borders.

Serbs inspired and sustained by Serbia hold 27 percent of Croatia and 70 percent of Bosnia. The United States calls on those Serbs to bargain back some part of their ill-gotten gains but is so far prepared to apply only uncertain economic and political pressures to make it happen. Croatia's and Bosnia's presidents are both in Washington this week, partly to lobby for new American measures of military supply and participation. Against these demands the Clinton administration promotes a line of diplomacy intended to induce Serbia to persuade its client Serbs to abandon their independence bids for compromise autonomy. It is an idea born of desperation, and its failure would shift the condition of American policy

from high embarrassment to true crisis. — THE WASHINGTON POST.

Other Comment

Another Standard for Taiwan

Days after Secretary of State Warren Christopher confirmed that President Lee Teng-hui [of Taiwan] would not be allowed to attend a reunion at his alma mater, Cornell University, the Clinton administration announced that the leader of the Irish Republican Army's political wing, Gerry Adams, had been invited to the White House. Mr. Adams will be al-

lowed to use his time in America to raise money - money Britain says goes to buy weapons. Mr. Lee is the leader of a vibrant democracy with close U.S. ties. Surely a White House that can find room for an IRA fund-raiser ought to be able to come

up with a formula to allow a democratical-

elected leader to attend a reunion of

his American university. — Far Eastern Économic Review (Hong Kong).



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Herald Tribune If Iran Is Involved, Mind the Business of Big Business

NEW YORK — Oh dear, what to do. How can we get that Conoco company to cancel its billion-dollar deal to develop oil fields for Iran?

For a couple of weeks, Washington fretted with that.

Appeal to Conoco patriotism! That was one idea. Tell the Conoco people that the deal worried the president and his secretary of state sick, because it would blow a huge hole in the containment policy. Both say that containment, mostly of trade and arms, is necessary to keep some rein on Iranian terrorism, militarism and its political and religious warfare against the United States. But Conoco had heard that stuff and was not deeply moved. It knew that

And so we were left with the predictable, inevitable result of appeasement through trade.

Americans thought U.S. oil trade with Iran had been embargoed for 15 years. But Conoco said look, right here is a provision that foreign subsidiaries of American companies can make all the deals they want. We and our Du Pont owners are doing it through our Dutch subsidiary, all sweetly legal. Well, how about this: What a lovely By A. M. Rosenthal

role model you would be, Conoco, if in the name of fighting tyrannies you just waived that privilege of destroying the containment policy.

No, that did not work, either. Everybody knows that role models are for young people, poor people, minority peo-ple, to encourage them to work harder and not have so many babies. They are not for big businesses, who have enough trouble keeping shareholders happy without getting involved in any struggle against dictators, for Heaven's sake!

Here's another idea: Get the oil industry together and ask it to persuade Conoco. Trouble is, so many other U.S. oil companies have taken such advantage of that "loophole" that they have become Iran's biggest oil customer. They are not likely to jawbone themselves very hard.

The members of the Bronfman family on the Du Pont board did listen and prepared to fight the deal. But there was no guarantee that they would win, or that it would not pop up next week in another American company — in fact, there was a likelihood it would.

One thing was left: government action, so painfully long overdue, to plug the Iranian oil loophole. The loophole was left in deliberately for 15 years, to allow U.S. oil to do business with Iran despite

the so-called embargo. It was a scandal, under Bill Clinton as under George Bush.

The American alibi has been that if you don't do business with Iran and other tyrannies, why, your best friends will gobble the trade up — Germany, Japan, France, Britain, all of them.

But the alibi simply encourages allies to gobble faster. If the United States will not put its trade profits where its democracy mouth is, why should they? We are left with the predictable, inev-

itable result of appeasement through trade, whether with Nazis, Communists or religious fanatics.

Iran is arming, and subsidizing terrorism; it never stopped either. The U.S. Joint Chiefs are openly worried about Iran's naval and missile expansion in the Gulf, aided by arms sales from Russia and China Tank-supported Revolutionary Guards are being reinforced on Gulf islands. That will strengthen Iranian control and blackmail in the commercially and strategically important Strait of Hormoz.

And here comes Russia, selling nuclear plants to Iran; the plutonium by-product could be used for nuclear weapons. But then, if America is good enough to pro-vide Iran with oil dollars to buy nuclear plants, why shouldn't the desperate Russians go get those dollars?

President Clinton finally said he would issue an executive order barring U.S. companies from developing oil in Iran. Good first step, but until we see the line print we do not know whether it would permit the American oil subsidiaties to keep buying all the Iranian oil they want, as long as it was not landed in America.

And executive orders have a drawback. What the president giveth he can canceleth. In 1993, Democrats in Congress wanted to present legislation raising tariffs on Communist China unless it eased its massive human rights violations. Mr. Clinton said here, let me do that by executive order. Congress stepped aside. So one day in 1994 Mr. Clinton canceled that order, like a stamp.

Senator Alfonse D'Amato and Representative Peter King, New York Republicans, have introduced legislation for a total U.S. embargo on Iranian trade. Mr. D'Amato, who is showing more foreign policy energy than many senators who built their reputations in that field, holds hearings this week. That may have spurred the president to the executive order.

However the presidential order is writ-ten, Congress should give a full embargo the non-cancelable stability of legislation. Congressional action will at last give ngton some cthical pressure against

deals with Iran by American allies.

And, maybe most important of all, it may reduce American public cynicism about politics, government and business as role models fit for young or old. The New York Times.

Cold Spell: Ulster and the Balkans Come Between Clinton and Major

WASHINGTON — I bit into a pizza appetizer just as President Bill Clinton turned from conversation with Senator Edward Kennedy about Northem Ireland and asked, "Do you

think we're right on this?"
"Mostly right," I responded
between bits of oregano and cheese, and more out of instinct than heavy analysis. Now what did I mean by that, I wondered, as the conversation at the weekend cocktail party sensibly turned to the latest mystery novels on the president's reading list.

A day later, John Major helped sort out my instinctively hedged response. Defending his decision to visit Yasser Arafat in Gaza, the British prime minister inadvertently cast a favorable light on Mr. Clinton's efforts to get the Irish Republican Army to agree to an end to Ulster's long civil war.

Back to Messrs. Major and Arafat in a moment. The bigger picture is this: Relations between British prime minister are now at

By Jim Hoagland British in the 1956 Suez crisis. Mr.

Clinton's decision to override Mr. Major's objections and host IRA political leader Gerry Adams at a St. Patrick's Day White House reception has turned a chill between Washington and London into a glacial freeze.

That is where my reservations my "mostly" — kick in. Britain is too important an ally to be given the back of the hand in such an open way. There must have been a way for Mr. Clinton to involve himself in the Irish question more diplomatically, without bruising Mr. Major, I keep thinking.

But this is a political intervention, not a diplomatic one. The State Department's repeated pleas that Mr. Adams not be allowed into the United States (much less into the White House) have been consistently brushed aside by the president's political advisers.

The president is clearly playing the American president and the to the Irish-American community by progressively lifting restrictheir lowest point since Dwight tions on U.S. official contact with Eisenhower's humiliation of the Sinn Fein, the IRA's political

wing. Moreover, credit for helping bring off a peace settlement would provide much needed luster for Mr. Clinton with the American electorate at large,

Mr. Major is in an even more precarious position. His Conservatives, deeply divided over Britain's place in the European Union, trail far behind Tony Blair's Labor Party in public opinion polls. If there is glory to be won from a peace settlement in Ulster, Mr. Major desperately needs it. In some key respects, he must now see Mr. Clinton as a political rival for reflected glory on Ireland.

Enter Mr. Arafat. The British prime minister visited the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization on Tuesday. "Terronsm has now been renounced by Chairman Arafat," Mr. Major said defensively before the visit. "I have not seen it comprehensively denounced by Mr. Adams."

But there is a more striking difference between these two men who aspire to join the long list of ex-terrorists who have become

excellencies. Mr. Adams's previous two visits to the United States were followed by a cease-fire and IRA concessions in the embryonic peace talks. He thus far has been willing and able to deliver on the promises that he makes to the White House.

Mr. Arafat's promises to halt Palestinian violence against Is... raelis remain undelivered. Mr. Major scored the political equivalent of soccer's "own goal" (giving your opponents a point by kicking the ball into your own

net) by vaunting Mr. Arafat over Mr. Adams without the goods. For Mr. Adams and Mr. Arafat, promises are weapons as much as their bullets were before. It is not necessary, or even wise, to take their declarations at face

vaine. Only results matter. Mr. Clinton follows a high-risk Irish strategy by paying in advance. He gives Mr. Adams enormous carrots of recognition and waits for the IRA to deliver. So far it has paid off, making the British government look like the hesitant, foot-dragging party. That is not an accurate image, but the administration's rough treatment of Mr. Major has helped it take root. When Douglas Hurd, Mr. Ma-jor's able foreign secretary, was in Washington a few weeks ago, he told friends that the "poison" injected in U.S.-European relations by disagreements over Bosnia med to have been drained. But that judgment was premature. In recent weeks, as it has disregarded Mr. Major on Ireland, the administration has also moved to make Croatia the centerpiece of

its Balkans diplomacy.
The Irish and Croatian initiatives reflect a conscious decision by the White House to downgrade the "special relationship" between Washington and London. The United States seeks to build a new U.S. special partnership with Germany, Croatia's strongest defender in Europe.

Mr. Clinton plays the optimist on Ireland. Mr. Major urges caution and restraint. In the end, "mostly" won't count. The IRA will prove one of them right and one wrong, and help the re-election-chances of the former.

global markets: "Why were they

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Site:

so mad? Why the vengeance?

ment devalued.

Because, I told him, hell hath no

fury like a bond trader with a cell.

Enrique del Val Blanco, an of-ficial of Mexico's Human Ser-

vices Ministry, sounded like a

man living through "Invasion of the Body Snatchers."

"Everyone feels their life is de-

termined by someone outside,

and everyone wants to know who

is this person? Who is this force?

Mexico: Feeling Powerless in the First Postmodern Economic Crisis

MEXICO CITY — Ricarda Martinez, a 60-year-old peasant living in a tumbledown shack on the edge of Mexico City, says she has never heard of Wall Street and doesn't know anything about dollar-linked peso bonds, George Soros or Merrill Lynch's

emerging markets fund. Peeling cactus from her garden, she insists that none of those strange-sounding names could possibly explain what she does know, which is that she can't afford to buy meat anymore, and that "Mexico is now different now we are poor."

Mrs. Martinez is right. Mexico today is different, but it is because Mexico has been hit with a financial neutron bomb, launched by the very forces that Mrs. Martinez has never heard of.

DARIS—The commitment the

only beginning

By Thomas L. Friedman As with any neutron bomb, all curb spending at home, and when

standing but the people have been devastated. Overnight, the Mexican economy has shrunk from a size large to a size small. without ever stopping at medium.

If I were a political scientist, I would be down here now taking

notes, because there is something very old about Mexico's crisis, but also something very new. What is old is the fact that Mexico, like many other countries, got hooked on cash from foreign investors to finance its development, because it had a low savings rate at home. Mexico

promised those investors high in-

terest and a fixed-rate peso. But

to keep that promise it had to

the buildings have been left it couldn't, the peso was devalued Three things are new: the mas-

sive amount of private foreign cash that Mexico had grown dependent upon, the speed at which global investors could withdraw those funds when they suddenly decided they didn't like Mexican policies, and the interdependence of Mexico and other global economies, which meant that when Mexico's currency crumbled, many global investors bailed out of all emerging markets, dragging down everything from the Thai baht to the Argentine peso.

That is why the Mexican Meltdown of 1995 is the first post-

What interests me most, though, are the political implications of a world in which nations kets. Mexican officials speak like defeated generals. "Give us a truce," said Finance.

Martinez meets Merrill Lynch.

Minister Guillermo Ortiz, addressing the global markets. "You have pounded us to death. Stop selling us short."

Asked what it is like to be caught in the maw of the global markets, he gestures to the three computer screens next to his desk that track the peso: "I have days when I feel absolutely powerless. Sometimes I have to go work in the other room so that I can concentrate away from the screens." A stunned official of Mexico's central bank asked me about the

or inversion, of domino theory-

retary of the Treasury, says the

gnarantees to Mexico are an essen-

tial part of America's commitment

to "a new international era." They

are among "the modes and meth-

ods for United States engagement in global transformation," mean-

ing "the liberalization and integra-

tion of trade around the world," to

which only isolationists and the "nostalgic" could object.

The globalist official rhetoric

particularly recalls the 1960s. We

now have only to await the light

at the end of the tunnel. It will be

International Herald Tribune.

Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

some time before we see it.

Lawrence Summers, undersec-

We thought that we were on the path to the First World and suddealy something went wrong. One minute the World Bank and IMF were saying Mexico was the best example. Now we are the worst, example. What did we do? We are losing control. If we don't find, another type of development, we are finished. We surrender."

At the presidential palace, Er-

pesto Zedillo sits at a table in his office. Tchaikovsky's "1812 Over-,, ture" is playing in the background. I wonder whether the music is meant to fortify him for another duel with the bond market. Unlike Mrs. Martinez, President Zedillo has met Merrill Lynch.

The speed at which interna-, tional markets have evolved over the last 25 years has been much faster than the capacity of gov-connents and international organizations to cope," he said.

The boom was built very quickly, and nobody was looking. at it. Certainly we were not. We have to start thinking about a global arrangement that would prevent the sort of things we are now endming."

The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1895: Policy of Politesse

PARIS — The Figure this morning [March 16] publishes an article on the attitude to be observed by France towards foreign countries and especially Germany. Two courses are open to her: ei-ther an attitude of aggression or one of observant politeness. It is easy, says the writer, to write insultingly of foreign countries, but those who advocate this policy will have to prepare for war. France's policy is a waiting one. With a prolonged peace who knows if a pacific solution of burning questions may not be possible.

1920: Comps in Germany

LONDON - In the House of Commons today [March 15] Mr. Lloyd George read the following telegram from the British Charge

itary coup is announced from Mu-nich. Frankfort is divided into two camps. Fighting is going on in .

Breslan, Hamburg, Kiel, Leipzig and Chemnitz. The results are as yet uncertain. In about 35 cities. military coups are reported. The position of the new government seems to be strengthened."

1945: Yard by Yard IWO JIMA -- Japanese resis-

tance collapsed late yesterday [March 14] on the center and right of their front lines guarding Kitano Point, and in fluid fighting the 5th Division of marines? gained 200 to 400 yards before darkness. On the extreme right along the rim of a 60-foot cliff, marines under Colonel Thomas Wornham made the deepest gains, reaching Kitano neck, with only 800 yards more to go. The mannes engaged in the first night attack

of domino theory. Institutional Revolutionary Party, historically the vehicle of Mexican nationalism — and of resisitself in power. For the first time tance to American exploitation of crimes committed within the party Mexican oil resources. leadership are being exposed to

and last Friday was given, Mexico's promise of a program of economic austerity with distressing implications for millions of Mexicans, who only weeks ago were being told that their comtry's membership in NAFTA assured rising prosperity for them and their country. One aspect of

loan guarantees. Even without the debt crisis a national upheaval is under way in Mexico which not even the Mexicans can be sure they can solve. Washington's commitment to a solution is an engagement with the uncontrollable and unforeseeable. The possibilities to which this could lead have yet to be

Broad American Commitment, Narrow Ideology By William Pfaff

United States now has made to Mexico bears a distinct resemacknowledged by the administrablance to the commitment it tion, although President Bill Clinmade to Vietnam during the late 1950s and the early 1960s, when ton has already taken steps to strengthen control of the Mexican border. Mexico's new austerity the troubles in that country were guarantees to intensify the pressures behind northward migration, illegal when it cannot be legal.

Belief in the universal

is a current inversion

benevolence of free trade

That was war and this is peace. Nonetheless now, as then, with as little reflection and a simplistic The new president, Ernesto Ze-dillo, a product of the PRI system, ideology, Washington has taken on responsibility for the fortunes is attempting to reform the party and the way it has perpetuated of another nation that it scarcely knows and fails to understand.

In Mexico this American assumption of responsibility is primarily economic, but Mexico's economic plight is inseparable from the political crisis afflicting the seven-decade-long dictator-ship in Mexico of the PRL or

Washington has demanded, the new arrangement is that a major part of Mexico's future oil revenues is pledged against the new American and international

public view, investigated and given These include the murder of the

the promise of prosecution. party's secretary-general in Sep-tember and of the party's presidential candidate last March. The brother of former President Carlos Salinas de Gortari has been arrested for allegedly ordering the for-mer murder, and ex-President Salinas last week was himself "asked" to leave Mexico, taking refuge in the United States.

Mr. Salinas was until a few days ago the United States' nominee to become head of the new World Trade Organization.

There are, in addition, allegations of high-ranking embezzlement by party figures, and of government and party implication in the drug traffic. Most of this was known or assumed while Washington was campaigning to make

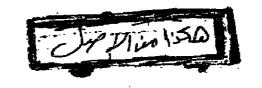
Mexico part of NAFTA. There is also, of course, an armed rebellion among impoverished Indians in the state of Chiapas in the south, which enjoys much nation-al sympathy from intellectuals and a part of the church. The stabilization plan an-

nounced by Finance Minister Guillermo Ortiz promises the Mexican people recession, unemployment and personal hardship. The inflation rate is now forecast to rise to 42 percent this year. There will be a one-third loss of buying power, a 50 per-cent increase in value-added tax, programmed rises in electricity and gasoline prices - and a great many bankruptcies.

This program is the price demanded for the debt guarantees that Washington has arranged, as well as being a consequence of the fecklessness of the Salinas government in refusing to confront the country's currency and deficit problems last year while there was still time to deal with them.

Neither corporate business nor organized labor in Mexico has yet been willing to endorse this plan. Whether it will succeed is open to question. Chaotic financial conditions may return. Alan Greenspan of the Federal Reserve has said to Congress that while he distikes the "too big to fail" argument in favor of American guarantees to Mexico, this nonetheless has been an international crisis - and of course may be-

come one again. Washington's ideology in all of this, under both Democrats and Republicans, has been that of the universal benevolence of unrestricted global free trade. d'Affaires in Berlin: "The milita-This is a contemporary version, rist movement is spreading. A mil-



OPINION/LETTERS

Business Leadership Is Fine but It Comes at a Price

WASHINGTON — The good news is that a solid debate about post-Cold War foreign policy is at last beginning. George Bush's new world order and Bill Clinton's enlargement policy are rapidly fading memories — deservedly so. The not-so-good news is that while the world is utterly transformed. American thinking utterly transformed, American thinking has hardly budged. Much of it is still firmly rooted in the world of 1970.

William Safire went so far in a column in The New York Times (IHT, March 7) as to compliment President Bill Clinton for

using the same line in a foreign policy address that Mr. Safire had penned for President Richard Nixon 25 years earlier. Indeed, with place names appropriately changed, most of the speeches given at a recent gathering of foreign policy bulls at the Nixon Center for Peace and Freedom could have been delivered decades and could have been delivered decades ago.

Rhetorically, nearly all agreed on the undiminished need for U.S. leadership. But the word is used to mask profoundly differ-ent views of America's role in the world.

Republicans see a dividing line between unilateralists and multilateralists. The latter, they say, care so much about international institutions and international opinion that they allow themselves to be led by them rather than to lead. Nonsense, say the Clintonites, the choice is false: The United States will lead multilaterally whenever it can and unilaterally when it must.

Unilateralists' world view is unabashedly take it or leave it. This school, as Mr. Safire puts it, says "America should pick its spots and assert its leadership, inspiring and pressuring and expecting allies to follow." Instead of being committed to often tiresome international organizations, ad hoc coalitions can be created when needed.

The administration is closer to reality, but neither side grapples with the crucial By Jessica Mathews

or the will to act alone on all matters of

major concern to it? And can it expect allies and others to follow when it calls?

True, the United States is the world's greatest military power. But for countries that do not feel any foreseeable threat or that have no reason to expect American ests and foreign policy goals ought to be, help, that does not mean quite the same Republicans see no contradiction bething as it did when U.S. strategic bombers patrolled the skies and any local conflict could become a superpower standoff.

The paradox of America's triumph in the Cold War is that it came at a heavy cost in the power that went with U.S. generalship. Germany, to take one example, would never have defied American opposition to its recoming of Crossic that get that the control the control to the control of the con

exercised. To deny the difference from today is to ask for disappointment.

The change on the economic front is just as great. Weirdly, to say now that America's goals should reflect its relatively diminished resources and willingness to spend them is to invite being labeled a despised "declinist." And yet, while in 1970 the United States was one-third of the world economy today it is one-quarter changed from what it once was. It is these among the top providers of foreign assis- lead us down a blind alley. tance, today (on a per capita basis) it ranks at the bottom. Where it once could launch

No government's sovereignty is what it was in 1970. Trade, foreign investment, capital flows and information flows, all growquestion of what it takes to exercise leader- ing much faster than national economies. ship of either sort in today's world. Does the United States have the financial means own economies and bind them in a thicken-

own economies and bind them in a thickening global web of needs and interests.

For fear of being seen as weak, the Clinton administration will not talk to the public about why exercising leadership is now tougher and thereby begin a badly needed discussion of what American inter-

tween demanding a reduced assessment of America's UN dues to reflect the country's smaller share of the world economy and

ognition of Croatia (the act that started the see the once invincible dollar skidding to Bosnian tragedy) during the Cold War. historic lows to know that there has been a Then, American leadership did not need to change. They know about U.S. arrears in be asserted or separately earned but merely international institutions. They see U.S.

the world economy, today it is one-quarter changed from what it once was. It is these of it. Where it once cast one-quarter of differences, not the constants, that need an World Bank votes, today it counts for 17 honest airing. A prolonged debate about percent. Where the United States was once unilateralism vs. multilateralism will only

The writer, a senior fellow at the Council almost any international initiative by be- on Foreign Relations, contributed this coming willing to pay for it, today it cannot. ment to The Washington Post.



Front Window' Detective and Unesco Bugbear

PARIS — One sheet of glass and a few dozen meters are all that separate Bernie Dresner from Unesco headquarters in Paris. And officials at the organization should take note: Ber-

Continue Links

Marris

third floor apartment keeping tabs on the UN's educational,

MEANWHILE

scientific and cultural monolith across the street. He notes when tents go up for VIPs and tracks the limonsines and helicopters that shuttle the important visitors in and out.

They brought in more plants and red carpets," he said when Fidel Castro visited Unesco on Monday. "It's just another blow

With high-powered binoculars he spots the sharpshooters who are sometimes stationed on

ception in this tent."

When the elaborate prepara-

tions become too much to bear, he fires off a letter to the editor. "It looks like a Barnum & Bailey job," he wrote the IHT. "The entire entrance area is covered with white tenting and wooden curb. And it isn't done yet; 4 days' construction so far."

Mr. Dresner also phones in

After a few days of this, he realizes that a neighbor woman has been murdered. And he tries to solve the crime. Like Jeffries, Mr. Dresner

during the Truman and Eisenhower administrations, and has spent years looking through glass of one sort or another.

Although Mr. Dresner doesn't look like James Stewart (he is short and wears glasses), should tell others what he sees.

he said, sitting in a loveseat and keeping an eye on doings out-side the window. "I just feel that what's happened since then is a big nothing."

and their petits fours; the obsessive street cleaners who, the night before an important meeting, scrub away at the pavement below his window. even sometimes in the pouring rain; and the booming loudspeakers set up to call chauffeur-driven cars when digni-

taries are ready to leave.
Undoubtedly, part of Mr.
Dresner's grudge is personal.
His street is blocked and the entrance to his garage shut durtake up half of the sidewalk opposite his apartment. But Mr. Dresner is also preoccupied with the cost of it all. "How many millions of dol-

lars are being spent — wasted — during this one-day conference of the heads of 120 nations concerning AIDS?" he wrote to the IHT last year. Would it not be far better for that money to have been devoted to scientific research?"

If he sometimes feels his watchfulness is in vain, Mr. Dresner might find a soulmate in Jeffries, who had a hard time persuading Lisa, his fiancée. layed by Grace Kelly, that he

had actually witnessed a crime. "Jeff, if you could only see yourself," she says to him in exasperation. "Sitting around looking out of the window liam Safire - will surely not be long days traveling both above to kill time is one thing. very surprised to read the forgivand below ground, even parting But doing it the way you are - with binoculars and wild opinions about everything -

Mr. Dresner's quest might pool my resources for a more seem quivotic. But he could perhaps take heart from the fact that L. B. Jeffries solves the

International Herald Tribuni

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,**OSA**). "Add-

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than any other

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cellular neophytes

an operate the phone

with nary a glance at

an owner's manual"

Men's Journal, UK).

Portable Phone of the

Lar" (Mobiltelefon &

Pager, Germany). "1994–95



sealest mobile, se ever seen." (Canberra) Times, Australia). "Overall rating Very good" (Connect, Germany). The most enchanting feature in Nokia's successful top model is the gigantic display and the clear menus communicated by the display. Spacious four-line display shows even longer words or sentences without abbreviations. This gives a very smart picture of the product." (Langaton, Finland). "Ready for future wave of digital features" (The Sun. Malaysia).

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"★★★★★ Editors' Choice. The Nokia 2110 is absolutely the most versatile GSM phone on the market.' (Tekniikan Maailma, Finland). "The new Nokia 2110 GSM phone is phenomenal in two ways: it is as practical as it is efficient!" (Le Figaro Magazine, France). "The selection keys are logi cally grouped to guide users

wards: Best Business Phone. Rokia 2110 has it all – portabito all func-Bity, performance and features. tions in an The LCD is easy to read, the easy-to-rebattery life is excellent and RF member performance is good" way" (What Cell-Comphone, IJК). ter-

By Thomas Fuller nie by now—he has lived there "Hello, this is your favorite spy." 23 years—and they wave back. Why this fixation on Unesco? 23 years — and they wave back. Tm close enough so that I Doesn't Bernie Dresner have can see the faces of the people anything else to do? nie is watching. At 78, Mr. Dresner sits at the large rectangular window of his street and the rows of tents set Think of him as a modern-day L. B. Jeffries, the protagonist of the 1954 Hitchcock classic "Rear Window," played by James And that can be summed up in Stewart. With his leg stuck in a a word: waste. up for both Mr. Castro's visit and a March 17 meeting becast, Jeffries, a magazine pho-tographer, sits at his window to the UN in San Francisco in tween ministers of the Rio Group and the European Union. They've got portable fight off the boredom, He watch- 1945 and again in New York heaters back there, blowers; es his neighbors: the woman when the United Nations buildwho dances in her underwear, they're installing an entire re-

the man who composes songs on when their shades aren't down.

flooring — all the way out to the has seen a good part of the world through lenses, wide angle and telephoto. A combat photographer in Europe during World War II, he was White the headquarters' roof and updates on construction pro- World War II, he was White waves to them. They know Ber- jects, introducing himself with, House photographer for NBC

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The East Timor Drama Regarding "Making a Tardy

Issue of East Timor" (Opinion, March 6) by Richard Woolcott: Ambassador Woolcott's attempts to excuse the inexcusable with regard to East Timor fail to convince. Since 1975, Indonesia has been in illegal occupation of the former Portuguese colony in defiance of no less than 10 Security Council and General Assembly resolutions. Even Indonesian officials admit

ants, a quarter of the pre-1975 population, have perished. The Australian government, which Mr. Woolcott represented as ambassador in Jakaria at the time of the invasion, has acted despicably toward East Timor. During World War II, some 60,000 Timorese died in a bloody Australian commando operation waged to prevent a Japanese assault on Australia's Northern Territory. Instead of repaying this debt of honor, Canberra has consistently connived with the Indonesian military, first in recognizing its annevation (Australia is the only Western country to have accorded de jure recognition) and then in dividing up East Timor's sea-

hed resources (including oil

fields thought to equal three politicians pointing fingers for serves) with Jakarta.

Portugal's case against Australia is thus a strong one. PETER CAREY.

Oxford, England. Of Course He Forgives

Regarding "Marble Bust of gnew in the Capital" (Opinion, March 14) by William Safire: that 100,000 to 120,000 inhabit-

watched as the Nixon-Agnew team jeered Vietnam War protesters, setting into motion the terrible alienation of America's young, and ultimately making

Many Americans who dwin-Beneich:

criminals of those unwilling to die in support of a stupid and nefacious military slaughter all the while being spurred on by the brilliant prose of one William prose of one William to the brilliant prose of one William to the long days traveling both above ing words of that same Mr. Sa- with one franc per person who fire, That those two American asked would mean paying more leaders turned out to be small- per hour than we ourselves earn. is diseased!" time crooks was unfortunate, as they were thereby relieved of being held responsible for the finale of that dreadful debacle. It approaches the slapstick to

witness, in 1995, Republican

times Australia's current re-nonparticipation or else taking credit for participation in that Receipt of stolen goods is a war, still pretending that there crime, as International Court of was something honorable or in-Justice lawyers are well aware. telligent about it; or a president who was clever enough to avoid the draft back then still not daring to stand up and repeat his own words of protest, pretending that there was something dis-

> JOE WILLIAMS. Dusseldorf. Choosing One's Charity

Regarding "She Had Only the Bench — And One Happy Meal" (Opinion, Feb. 7) by Sarah Bal-

With what credentials does the writer preach to us? How can she assume that those she sees on the Métro do not have other I like many others, choose to effective cause (such as that of Abbe Pierre). Spare us.

AMIT PIETER

crime in the end.

In Barring Iran Oil Deal, U.S. Sends Conflicting Signals

By David E. Sanger New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — If American business has received a single clear message from the Clinton administration in the last year, here it is: Join the age of "economic engagement," by helping the United States win over the souls of authoritarian regimes through greater access to American capital and investment.

That has been the logic with China, ever since the administration dramatically reversed gears a year ago and argued that investing in China would change Beijing's attitudes on human rights and the exportation of missiles.

It has been the logic with North Korea, where American business executives are already exploring investment opportunities. And it has applied in Vietnam, where the administration decided to standing in the wings. take considerable political heat from veterans groups so that American companies would not

miss out on economic openings.

Perhaps then it is understandable how Conoco Inc., the oil company subsidiary of Du Pont Co., missed the signals on Iran, and ended up losing a huge oil exploration deal.

After all, President Clinton appeared to be

reversing course again in using an executive order to par the transaction.

The administration is still struggling to explain how it has become such a vociferous advocate of "economic diplomacy" in dealing with some authoritarian regimes, while preaching the need for economic containment in places like Iran, Iraq that are beyond the pale," a senior administra-tion official said Tuesday, citing what he said was Iran's sponsorship of terrorism, its violation gas pumps. of human rights and its nuclear ambitions.

But the market reality is this: While turning investment on and off may be the primary weapon Washington has left in its foreign policy

NEWS ANALYSIS

arsenal these days, it is only powerful if the rest of America's allies go along.

In Iran's case, that rarely happens. So the Iranians know that if Conoco is prohibited from spending \$1 billion to develop its offshore oil fields, someone else — in this case the French companies Elf Aquitaine and Total - will be

Nor has the United States had much success etting others to join its halfhearted ban on Iranian oil exports. For years, Japanese and American diplomats have professed the same goals in their attempts to change the behavior of the Iranian regime. Yet, in 1993 Japan brought in 370,000 barrels a day, making it Iran's biggest export market.

Washington has rarely been in a position to complain publicly about all this, because its sanctions on Iran have never been as tough as its

The government has always permitted American companies to buy, refine and sell Iranian oil, as long as they do it off American shores and

"We draw the line in countries with policies through subsidiaries. And once refined, it is logical conclusion, allowing American compaimpossible to tell the source of the oil. At least nies to buy upwards of 25 percent of Iran's oil some of it undoubtedly flows through American production is contributing to the regime's health

> It was through this loophole that Conoco tried to leap. None of the oil in the deal it signed early this month was to be sold directly in the United States. No prohibition existed - until Tuesday - against the financing and service agreement Conoco planned to sign.

The president acted, his spokesman, Michael McCurry, said, because the deal would "represent a substantial new capacity for oil production by Iran."

He continued: "And that is, among other reasons, why the president felt it would dangerously add to their economic capacity to do the things that we find objectionable in the world community."

Of course, that is exactly the argument that the administration's critics have used in attacking its policy elsewhere in the world.

Presumably, economic engagement with North Korea, however limited, frees resources for that insular country to develop its arsenal of missiles, one of its biggest exports. Dealings with China inevitably enrich the People's Liberation Army, which holds big stakes in many of the busiest factories. China is periodically accused of shipping its missiles to Iran, another of the nese Army's main industries.

So why is what is right in China wrong in Iran?

It's not entirely clear. If Mr. McCurry's comments are taken to their alone.

and longevity. Indeed, that is the argument put forth by Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato, Republican of New York and now the chairman of the Senate Banking Committee. He has introduced legislation to prohibit American companies or their foreign subsidiaries from doing business with

"We are subsidizing Iranian terrorism by pur-chasing their oil and it has to stop," Senator D'Amato said recently.

Perhaps the real reason that the administra tion was able to act so strongly Tuesday is simple politics. After all, what Iran lacks in the United States, for understandable reasons, is any constituency in Congress.

The administration was under tremendous pressure from the business community last year to separate human rights from the issue of trade preferences for China.

There is an active Vietnam business lobby, led by companies that realize that the country may be the last source of well-educated, well-disciplined and very inexpensive labor in Southeast Asia. But by and large, American companies are not clamoring for a chance to work in a country that still routinely calls the United States the "great Satan."

The result was that Conoco found itself where no business ever wants to be in Washington: all

IRAN: A Small German Airstrip

Continued from Page 1: for light single and twin-engine aircraft that cannot fly directly

But liberal European Umon aviation guidelines permit civilscrutiny by customs authorities. And planes under 7.5 tons are not required to report flight destinations. These two factors drew the Iranians to the airport almost a decade ago, although the Iranians did not purchase the airport until 1993.

Last August, after two Iranians with close ties to the airport were arrested trying to snniggle heroin and opium into Germany, the government forbade the planes from leaving the country. But German officials say it has proved almost impossible to enforce the ban.

German companies have bought weapons material and technology for the Iranian government by falsifying end-user documents for nearly a decade, according to internal company documents. These small European companies, many of which are owned by Iranians, ship material in long, circuitous routes to Iran.

In 1993, with the airport in disrepair and losing money under German management, it was bought by Mehdi Kashani, an Iranian arms dealer, along with Mussa Khayer Habibollahi, a former deputy oil minis-ter of Iran. Mr. Habibollahi, who operated out of London until he disappeared from view a few weeks ago, offered the former owners \$8 million for

the airport. The price was twice what the German owners, Heinz-Erich Schreitmüller and Dr. Reinhard Uhlig, a Hamburg dentist, had paid for it four years before.

The two men agreed to stay on and work for the new management, company records

The management of the airport was turned over to an Iranian, Nick Ahmed Semnar. All of the Iranians, wanted for questioning by the German anthorities in connection with the airport's operations, are no longer in Germany. Mr. Schreitmüller and Mr. Uhlig are also being investigated by the German authorities for arms trafficking to Iran.

The deal included buying up all the related companies at the airport, including Paratec and Nordflug, which holds the license for the airfield, and Nordair, which holds a license from the German civil aviation anthority that allows the Iranians to buy aviation technology from German manufacturers without disclosing the final des-

tination_ Mr. Kashani, 52, trained as a cleric in Iran, lives in Madrid and was first linked to arms smuggling to Iran in 1983, when a shipment of weapons parts for Iran. Mr. Kashani was involved in the Reagan administration's efforts to send arms to Iran in return for the release of Western hostages held in Leba-

the Spanish police for trying to ship 200 Klystron amplifiers, used to help guide missiles, to the Iranian Air Force. Intelligence officials say they believe that he works for Mr. Habibollahi, who is believed to oversee the Iranian government's clandestine arms acquisitions in Eu-

Prehistoric Center, a government agency, to finance re-But despite his record, Mr. search. Even so, the family may Kashani continued to operate seek royalties. "The ministry is in Germany until last year. On acting like the king," said Miss Aug. 12, two associates, Parvis Sigurdson, 56, and a man identified in court documents only It appears that its problems with Mr. Chauvet, however, as Mohammed Ali L., 54, were may soon be resolved. Although arrested in the parking lot of the almost worldwide the caves Elysee-Hotel in Hamburg tryhave been called Chauvet, the ing to sell about 45 kilograms French government has reso-(100 pounds) of opium to un-

Intely referred to them as the Caves Vallon-Pont-d'Arc, after The narcotics, the Iranians the nearby village. In exchange for its faux pass, the government told the agents, would be delivered through the Hartenholm airport. The Iranians, who were arraigned in a Hamburg court in February, were also trying to buy radar components for American-made F-4 aircraft for the Iranian Air Force, the authorities said.

dercover agents.

Mr. Signrdson, who worked for Mr. Kashani and who carries a Danish passport, was ex-pelled by the Spanish authori-ties to Denmark last May, on suspicion of smuggling weap-ons to Bosnia and Croatia. three drug treatments effective

The ties between arms smuggling and narcotics trafficking

Money from drug sales is often poured back into illegal

dential letter dated Oct. 21,

1993, to his bank, said he had

arms and technology purchases, intelligence officials say. Mr. Schreitmüller, in a confi-

seemed to be equally effective in warding off pneumocystis pneumonia, an AIDS hallmark. been asked to launder about \$72 million of drug money for the Iranian owners of the airport. A German arms dealer. Peter Fisher, wanted for questioning because of what the au-

"In the past, Mr. Semmar was involved in the transportation of sensitive deliveries to Iran," Mr. Schreitmäller wrote. "He also seems to be involved in international drug trafficking ian airports to operate free from and tried to involve Nordair in Schleswig-Holstein I rejected

these intentions." Hamburg, a port city of 1.6 million residents, including 30,000 framians, has long been one of the central smuggling points in Europe. Intelligence officials say they believe that the Iranian Embassy in Bonn is the center for Tehran's intelli-

gence operations in Europe. It is from the embassy, they say, that Iranian agents coordinate plans to acquire illegal weapons and technology, as well as plan the killing of Iranian dissidents. About 60 Iranian dissidents have been killed in Europe and elsewhere since the Islamic government took power in 1979.

There are many Iranian institutions in Hamburg, including a large Islamic center. The center provides the Iranians, as well as Muslim militants from other countries, with a place to meet and arrange contacts, in-telligence officials said. It is also a cover for Iranian agents infiltrated into Europe, they

But there are other activities that give the transaus the cover they need to operate. Iranian ships dock frequently at the port to unload and take on cargo. Iranian truckers make the long drive to Hamburg to bring carpets and pistachios and return with European goods. There have been at least two

unexplained deaths connected to the airport here.

A few years ago, Mr. Ka-shani's wife, Leila Kashani, feli or was pushed to her death from a hotel room in Madrid.

She was frequently listed as a partner in the companies that shipped weapons technology to Iran. In 1984, she and her hushand were arrested in Los Angeles for stealing \$5 million belonging to a partner in a Swiss engineering company called Tex Consulting and Engineering Inc. The partner was Mr. Habibollahi.

The death of Mr. Barschel, the former premier of Schleswig-Holstein, on Oct. 11, 1987, shook Germany. Mr. Barschel was found drugged and drowned in a bathmb in the exclusive Beau Rivage Hotel, in Geneva. The police have not ruled out suicide, but the case is still under investigation in Swit-zerland and Germany. Mr. Barschel's widow and brother insist that he was assassinated.

Investigators say there was apparently a meeting in Geneva-of Iranian arms dealers and senior Iranian officials that may have included Ahmed Khomeini, the son of Iran's late spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and Mehdi Karoubi, liament, and Rafiq Dust, an arms dealer, hours before Mr.

Barschel's body was found. investigators say that Mr. Barschel may have taken part in the meeting. They also say that the former premier may have been involved in the arms deals with Iran and may have run afoul of the Iranians.

Intelligence officials say the Iranians have inherited many of the old contacts and smuggling routes used in the past by the Pakistanis and the Iraqis to acquire nuclear weapons technol-

Former airport workers say that planes are often hastily loaded or unloaded late at night in Hartenbolm. The airport, in an arrangement unusual for small civilian airstrips, has 24hour-a-day flight clearance.

Reached by telephone, Mr. Uhlig, one of the former owners, denied all involvement in the airport and refused to give

His former partner, Mr. Schreitmüller, who says Mr. Uhlig and the Iranians cheated him out of his share of the purchase price, has moved and changed his phone numbers. He said he had received several death threats.

Material is often flown by light aircraft to airstrips in Poland and possibly other East European countries, often by way of Brussels or Vienna, and loaded onto cargo planes bound for Iran, intelligence officials said. On other occasions, the officials said, it has been flown to Eastern Europe and carried by truck to cargo ships.

Intelligence officials said that the Iranians rarely take possession of weapons-related material in Europe or Russia, having it delivered instead to a transit point they believe will be beyoud the scretiny of Western intelligence services.

Oslo to Resume Seal Hunt

OSLO - Norway said thorities suspected was an at- Wednesday that it would reond sulphamethoxazole.

Only one percent of the 842 material through Hartenholm stopped in 1989 after world-to Iran, along with the airport wide condensation. It said it manager, Mr. Semnar, met with would continue its ban on comMr. Schreitmüller on Sept. 2, mercial haging of seal pups.

1993, in a restaurant in Cologne Buttonic 2600 seal pups will
to make the proposal, the letter be himsested in 1995 for pursaid. The name of the restaur posses of schriftle research, the
rant was crossed out.

Language of the state of the state of the state of

PEACE: Christopher Mission Provides Important Psychological Boost

Continued from Page 1

had buried the process." According to offi-cials on both sides, Israeli-Palestinian negotiations center on a phased Israeli pullback in the West Bank. Palestinian elections would follow an initial Israeli withdrawal from Jenin in the north and

possibly Bethlehem further south. Negotiations with Syria focused tightly on security arrangements after an Israeli withdrawal of undefined extent from the Golan Heights. Israel conveyed an offer through Mr. Christopher, for example, to permit a Syrian early warning post in Israel's northern Galilee region if Syria permits an Israeli station to remain on the Golan's strategic Mount Hermon.

In general, however, Israel rejects strict symmetry in the security arrangements. Israeli negotiators say the topography of too weak domestically to agree to return

the Golan and Syria's much larger activeduty army require a deeper demilitarized zone, for example, on Syria's side than

Though Israeli officials do not acknowledge that they are prepared to return the entire Golan, they have often hinted as much. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres repeated this week that "Israel will pay the inevitable price" for peace with Syria.

The real questions are the state of mind of the only two men who can bring the deal to a close. Mr. Assad and Prime Yitzhak Rabin of Israel have wavered on the brink for the past two years, and neither has committed himself yet.

For some months now, the conventional view in Israel has been that Mr. Rabin was

the Golan. But some officials said that the continued hemorrhage of support for Mr. Rabin's Labor-led government, most recently because of a campaign-spending scandal, has led him to move again to the view that a dramatic deal with Syria would do him good.

For Mr. Assad, Syria's centrally planned, Soviet-era economy is badly in need of Western aid and investment. A peace treaty would undoubtedly move Syria off the U.S. State Department's list of countries supporting terrorism, which now inhibits Syrian access to high-technology

At the same time, many Syrians have taken note of President Bill Clinton's difficulty in persuading Congress to provide debt relief even to Jordan, a historic ally.



LOOKING BACK - A father and daughter commemorating in Budapest the 147th anniversary Wednesday of the 1848 Hungarian revolt against Habsburg rule.

JAPAN: Mayor of Nagasaki Likens Atomic Bombing to the Holocaust

Continued from Page 1

clear weapons and a deep longing for their

But lately Japanese criticism of Mr. Truman's decision has been growing more pointed, perhaps reflecting the nation's self-confidence as an economic superpower, perhaps reflecting imitation over the postage stamp and Smithsonian controver-

Whatever the reason, the two mayors, Mr. Motoshima in particular, were remarkably explicit in apportioning blame

even as they disclaimed any desire to do so. A Foreign Ministry spokesman refused to comment on the mayors' statements. Asked whether the Japanese government shared the view that the bombings were morally equivalent to the Holocaust, the spokesman replied:

"There must be various views when it comes to the interpretation of historical events. But as far as the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is concerned, we think it was regrettable because it gave rise to countless casualties, and the Japanese people are convinced that this kind of horror should not be repeated."

In his speech, Mr. Motoshima apologized for Japan's own war misdeeds, de-claring: "I reflect gravely on Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor. I reflect gravely on its aggression in Asia and the atrocities it

committed in Asia and the Pacific." But he refused to acknowledge any justification for the bomb, which instantly killed more than 70,000 people in his city and 140,000 in Hiroshima, plus thousands more later from radiation sickness.

the fact that Japan was rejecting U.S. surrender ultimatums, and that Japanese troops were fighting to the death on island after island in the Pacific, raising the prospect of an appallingly bloody battle for the Japanese mainland.

Mr. Motoshima, however, saw other reasons behind America's decision.

He said that in the case of the Nagasaki bombing, there were two reasons for the atomic bombings other than the hastening of the war's end cited by the United States.

The first "was to prove the success of the Manhattan Project, which cost the American public \$2 billion," and, the second was to verify the actual explosive effect of the plutonium bomb," because, unlike the ura-nium bomb, he said, "the plutonium bomb was still unreliable." Most American historians would cite

CAVE: French Dispute Wall Art

video and made a shorter copy. Then at the press conference announcing the discovery, it ed out four of Mr. Clottes' photos. It also made two grave errors: The ministry did not have free worldwide.

BOAT: Canada Releases Spanish Trawler as Ottawa and EU Set New Talks

intergovernmental agency that regulates fishing in the area. The developments provided a muchneeded truce in a dispute between North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies that

has evoked the bitterness of the so-called

cod wars between Iceland and Britain in

At stake are tens of thousands of jobs on both sides of the Atlantic and the viability of rapidly diminishing fish stocks in the

Passions remained high, however, and there were several potential stumbling

A Spanish spokesman in Brussels said

and were free to fish.

Mr. Tobin, who earlier in the day had warned a Spanish vessel in the disputed waters that it could be seized, said only that the absence of any fishing "happens to be the case as we speak."

In Madrid, the Spanish government said the release of the Estai might ease tensions between the two countries but had not solved the conflict.

the problems caused by the illegal seizure," a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said. EU officials, meanwhile, rejected as un-

his government and the Union still refused justifiable allegations made on Tuesday by to recognize the Canadian moratorium Mr. Tobin, who claimed that the Estai had caught undersized fish using illegal nets and that its captain had maintained a fictitious log to hide his activities.

Emma Bonino, the EU fisheries com-missioner, told the European Parliament in Strasbourg that Canada was using disinformation to turn the Union into a "whipping boy" because "the Canadians have not managed their resources properly."

lved the conflict.

Resolving the dispute will not be easy,
"It is a decision that may contribute to though. The Union has refused to recogcreating a favorable climate and help solve nize a Feb. 1 NAFO decision, pushed by the problems caused by the illegal seizure." Canada, that slashed Europe's halibut quota for 1995 to less than a tenth of last year's catch, to 3,400 tons.

vacation, and therefore was enwished. Furthermore, he stated

that he was not a civil servant but a contractual worker, so the presented an edited version of civil servant rules did not apply Mr. Chauvet's video and handto him. "But the state maintains that he is a civil servant, even on vacation," said Mr. Chanvet's lawyer, Pierre Pujol. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Culture began to sell Mr. Clottes' pictures of the paintings through Sygma, without permission of the Coulange pictures and distribute them family. Mr. Notari says pro-ceeds are going to the National

Mr. Chauvet, Mr. Hillaire and Mr. Brunel-Deschamps hired the Sygma photo agency to sell their pictures. Mr. Chauvet claimed that although he works for the government, he discovered the caves while on

the written consent of Mr. Chanvet to show the video, nor the permission of the Coulange family for Mr. Clottes to take

Clinton Team's Sloppy Record in Vetting Nominees

Missteps and Hubris Have Exasperated All Concerned

By Ann Devroy and Pierre Thomas Washington Past Service

WASHINGTON - As Presidentelect Bill Clinton prepared to take office, the senior leader of his transition. Warren M. Christopher, announced that what he called the strictest ethics rules ever would apply to the new president's transition team and appointees.

A short time later, the FBI and lawyers for the transition team passed along information to Mr. Christopher and others who were reviewing potential cabinet members that Henry G. Cisneros, who was being considered for housing secretary, had made payments for "anguish" and "emotional distress" to a former mistress. The team turned to a close friend of Mr. Clinton's and an adviser for the transition, Webster L. Hubbell, who concluded that Mr. Cisneros's payments should be no bar to a

cabinet position. Now, two years later, Mr. Cisneros faces an independent counsel inquiry into his honesty, while two other independent counsels continue to investigate ethics questions about former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy and the Whitewater affair. Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown and Transportation Secretary Federico F. Peña also are awaiting word from the Justice Department on whether it will act on requests that their financial dealings be investigated by independent counsels.

In addition, Mr. Hubbell is awaiting sentencing following his guilty plea to

NEWS ANALYSIS recurring problem for the Clinton administration: Either from political hu-bris or political need, the White House has repeatedly ignored warnings that emerged in FBI background checks or

blown embarrassment weeks or months or years later. In several of the most controversial cases, transition and White House lawyers along with the FBI turned up negative or potentially embarrassing infor-mation that Clinton officials weighed and then decided was not important

initial interviews only to face a full-

enough to derail the nominee. "You would have thought that by now it would all be perfected," said Charles O. Jones, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution who is co-writing Brookings Institution who is co-writing edgment that he performed abortions in a book on the Clinton transition. "It just the course of his practice. The White boggles me why people whom you normally think of as politically savvy don't seem to have the foresight to judge what is likely to be an issue.

A Republican whose help was sought by the White House on one recent nominee who ran into trouble said: "Sometimes I think everyone over there is drinking the same Kool-Aid. It's like mass political suicide."

Republican of Kansas, said she was told In the last three months, the White some at the White House, including the Kennedy resigned in November.

charges he defrauded his law clients of nearly \$400,000.

House has had to ease out General Carnes. the CIA nomines, because of violanes, the CIA nominee, because of viola-The tale of Mr. Cisneros — like that tions of immigration and labor regula-of retired General Michael P. C. Carnes, tions involving a Filipino domestic the nominee for CIA director who with- worker, and the nominee for surgeon drew last weekend, and of many other appointment missteps — illustrates a under fire because key senators say he and the White House misled them about his performance of abortions. The miscalculations have given the

Republicans the kind of ammunition the Reagan administration gave its political focs with its string of ethics problems. Now Republicans are doing their own toting up. Senator Lauch Faircloth, Republican of North Carolina, said Mr. Clinton had pledged as a candidate that his administration would be the most ethical of all time."

"However," he added, "in less than two years, we have already had the dark cloud of unethical behavior fall over the Clinton presidency and force resigna-

In Dr. Foster's case, congressional Democrats were appalled that the White House walked unprepared into an intensely partisan fight over his acknowl-House not only misread the political implications of nominating a surgeon general who had performed abortions, but also failed to make sure legislators received accurate information about Dr. Foster's record.

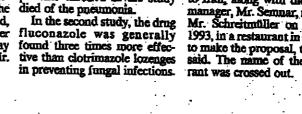
Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum,



Henry G. Cisneros, whose private indiscretions resurfaced to embarrass the Clinton administration.

president, knew Dr. Foster had performed more. To the administration's chagrin, some

of the officials charged with conducting combination of trimethoprim background checks of others - like Mr. Hubbell - have been found to have troubled backgrounds. White House officials removed ethics matters from the responsibility of William Kennedy 3d. an associate White House counsel, after by administration officials that Dr. Fos-it was disclosed that he had failed to pay ter had performed one abortion. But Social Security taxes for his nanny. Mr.



de Foresta. "It's not moral."

has agreed to name the caves

Drug Treatments

AIDS Pneumonia

BOSTON - Two studies on

the AIDS virus have found

in preventing AIDS-related

pneumonia, and a fourth drug

that helps prevent several fun-

gal infections in AIDS patients.

In the first study, published in Thursday's New England

Journal of Medicine, research-

ers found three drug regimens

Researchers, led by Dr. Sam-

uel Bozzette of the University

of California at San Diego, gave

three groups the drugs dapsone,

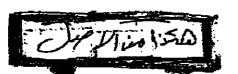
aerosolized pentamidine or a

patients enrolled in the study

and sulphamethoxazole.

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Is This It? Human Evolution May Be Over

Crib Death: The Case for Sleeping Position

creased risk of sudden infant have not heard the advice, oth- deaths if most American babies

ers choose for various reasons

Meanwhile, in several coun-

tries where the vast majority of

babies are now put to sleep on

their backs or sides instead of

their bellies, the rate of SIDS, or

these countries, and experts

here do not expect as large a

By William K., Stevens New York Times Service

EW YORK - Natural evolutionary forces are losing much of their power to shape the human species, scientists say, and the realization is raising tantalizing questions about where humanity will go from here.

Is human evolution ending, ushering in a long maturity in which Homo sapiens persists pretty much unchanged? Or will humankind, armed with the tools of molecular biology, seize control of its own evolution?

Recent work by evolutionary biologists and others is bringing into focus some of the factors likely to influence humanity's fate.

A number of experts say that Homo sion of human culture, already in full cally predisposed to do so — to walk flower in the cave art of Europe 35,000 upright and forage across the savanna.

By Jane E. Brody

New York Times Service

plained that she had been ban-

ished from baby-sitting for her

6-week-old grandson after the

parents caught her putting the

"Don't you know about

baby to sleep on his stomach.

SIDS?" the equally distressed

father hissed, referring to the

growing evidence that babies

who sleep face down are at in-

EW YORK - In a

letter published re-

cently in The New

York Times, a dis-

grandmother com-

years ago, has enabled the human spe-cies to liberate itself gradually from the harsh forces of natural selection.

Natural selection has to some extent been repealed" in the case of humans, says Dr. Steve Jones, a geneticist at University College London. Most social changes "seem to be conspiring to slow down human evolution," he argues in a recent book, "The Language of Genes: Solving the Mysteries of Our Genetic Past, Present and Future" (Anchor Books, 1994).

Natural selection shapes species by choosing the fit over the unfit generation after generation. Individuals born with advantageous genetic changes survive and have more progeny, while those who lose out in the genetic lottery may perish before breeding age.

The human line, until the relatively sapiens is becoming increasingly disen-gaged from the forces of natural selec-sures, evolved to exploit a life as hunters tion and speciation, the key processes that brought humankind into existence. Until quite recently on the evolutionary time scale, those processes bound humans to the confined and perilous existence was climatic change. It was a global cooling around five million years ago, many paleontologists believe, that shrank the mans to the confined and perilous existence of the human line at these contributions. tence of hunter-gatherers. But the explo- bears of the human line - those geneti-

She had, and she knew of the to ignore it and still others are

current advice to avoid the too poor to replace equipment

prone position for all but a rela- now considered unsafe for their

strong warnings, millions of crib death as it was long called.

American infants are being put has dropped by 50 percent or

bedding now considered potentially hazardous. As of last States, about one in 800 live

June, 45 percent of babies in the births, is much lower than in

Many parents and care givers drop in unexplained infant

tive handful of babies. But she infants.

replied that she could not get the baby to settle down on his

back and surely both baby and

She is not alone. Despite

to sleep in positions or on soft more.

baby sitter needed some rest.

United States were still sleeping

death syndrome

on their bellies.

Other environmental disruptions heating to hurricane warning systems, orced further adaptation, leading even-that populations are largely insulated forced further adaptation, leading eventually to hunting, tool-making and language. Along the way, scientists believe, some populations became isolated from each other by barriers of geography or habitat, and they evolved differently enough to split into new species. Many species probably arose as the human line evolved, but only one now remains.

OMO SAPIENS, the survivor, is departing from the script of natural selection in a number of ways, experts say, and evolutionary forces on humans consequently have weakened

For instance, lions and leopards and saber-toothed cats do not carry off the weak and unfit as they once did. "That's no longer there," notes Dr. Elisabeth S. Vrba, an evolutionist at Yale University.

Since most people now survive to reproductive age, according to one view, natural selection is being robbed of its most important raw material. If everyone survives and reproduces, no selection of the fittest can take place; everyone is fit. of humans in the modern world. "What

wrapped themselves in such a snug, protective cocoon, from clothing to central barrier that humans cannot cross now."

are switched from the prone po-

sition. But they insist that this is

one of the simplest measures

families and care givers can

which each year claim the lives

ONCERN about sleeping position, fol-

lowed by concern

about the surfaces ba-

of about 6,000 infants in the

bies sleep on, has been growing

over the last two decades, but

not until 1992 did the American

Academy of Pediatrics advise

parents to avoid putting babies

from the environmental stresses that drive evolution. Technology and medicine also tend to cancel out inherited genetic defects.

Colonies, emigration and travel have also blunted the shaping forces of evolution. When a population becomes isolated from the rest of its species, by a river or mountain, it is most likely to evolve in independent ways and eventually become a separate species.

"Homo sapiens today is in a mode of intermixing rather than of differentiation, and the conditions for significant evolutionary change simply don't exist - and won't, short of some all-too-imaginable calamity," Dr. Ian Tattersail, a paleoanthropologist at the American Muse-um of Natural History in New York, writes in "The Fossil Trail" (Oxford University Press, 1995).

For Dr. Tattersall, the most striking factor in the relaxation of evolutionary pressures is the unprecedented mobility Humans, some evolutionists say, have you have is a species that is spread over a rapped themselves in such a snug, pro-

face down. Last June, with evi-

dence mounting that prone sleeping was risky, a coalition

national education campaign,

"Back to Sleep," to persuade parents to put healthy babies to

sleep on their backs or sides.
Dr. Bradley T. Thach, neonatologist at Washington Univer-

sity in St. Louis, Missouri, said,

Throughout history, most ba-

bies throughout the world have

been placed on their backs, as

was the case in the United

Then, he said, American ex-

perts, including Dr. Benjamin

death or developing aspiration pneumonia if they vomited

this, Dr. Thach said, and in

Australia and England, where

babies have now been switched

to sleeping on their backs, there

has been no increase in any

cause of infant death, only a

that babies who sleep on their

backs are healthier than belly

Child Health and Human De-

velopment in Bethesda, Mary-

land, noted that in the Austra-

lian state of Tasmania, where

sleep position has been intense-

ly studied since 1988, the switch

leading researcher in the field

the National Institute of

sleepers. Dr. Marian Willinger

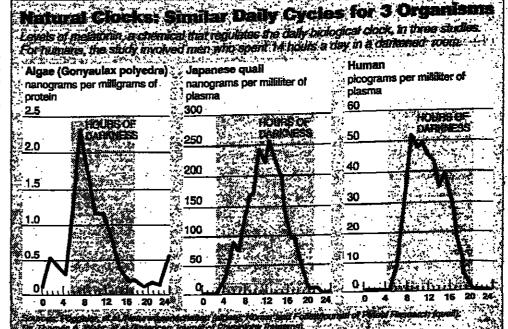
There is even a suggestion

sharp decrease in crib death.

But there is no evidence for

States up until the 1930s."

adopt to reduce crib deaths, of federal and private child which each year claim the lives health organizations began a



Rhythm of the Seasons

By Natalie Angier
New York Times Service

ETHESDA, Maryland - As the vernal equinox advances, and the sun lingers in the sky a bit longer each day, and the buds poke forth like babies' fists from every barren twig, even urbanites may feel the pagan craving to revel in seasonal rhythms.

After all, the lengthening of the day and the warming of the air exert a tremendous influence on virtually every other life form, inspiring migrations, ending hibernations, inciting growth and exciting lust. Surely people's innate circadi-

an clocks must react to the return of spring, resetting themselves to keep pace with the Biological clocks hooked up, prodded bled and sampled like astronauts for extra daytime hours.

men, however, the songs of the Who are Women. seasons apparently hit a deaf ear. The contemporary industri-

alized world, which blazes with artificial illumichanges in day length.

Spock, promoted prone sleep-ing, believing it would reduce the risk of babies' choking to Women and men may sleep the same number of hours each night, they may spend the same amount of time bathed in a corporate fluorescent glow each day, but in women, at least one essential keeper of internal circadian rhythms heeds. only the sun. When the sun rises late and sets with sorry haste, the amount of a key circadian hormone, melatonin, that is secreted in the female brain at night increases. Come summer, nocturnal melatonin release falls off.

> The consequences of that seasonal hormonal shift remain unknown for humans, but in other species, annual changes in melatonin secretion serve as the principal signal orchestrating many of the behaviors that count, including a willingness to fly thousands of miles to one's summering grounds and the desire to breed.

> Among modern men, by contrast, though they retain all the machinery to react to seasonal change, the release of melatonin at the winter solstice is identical to that secreted during a midsummer night's dream. "Men seem to be more sensitive to artificial

lights than women are," said Dr. Thomas A. Wehr of the clinical psychobiology branch of the away from belly sleeping has National Institutes of Mental Health here, who been associated with a decline made the discovery of the differences in circadi-

study that Dr. Wehr and his colleagues are carry- on a 25-hour day.

ing out in the relatively numined field of photope riodicity in humans — the impact of day length on hormonal fluxes, sleep patterns and behavior. They are seeking to measure key indices of seasonal rhythms in humans and to see when, why and how those measures might change over the course of the year. Their work could explain why women suffer disproportionately from seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, a type of depression that strikes most often in winter.

In addition to the study of seasonal shifts, the researchers are attempting to tease apart the details of the body's circadian clock, which operates on a 24-hour schedule and tells a person when to sleep, eat and be out and about. Through

elahorate and demanding studies that require volunteers to be As it turns out, human bio change in half of all weeks at a time, the scientists logical clocks do change but only in about half of all people — the half what the human circadian clock may have behave like in prehistoric times, before the advent of bright lights, big cities and all-night cybersex.

Some of the scientists' results are preliminary, nation, has suppressed men's ability to react to and those describing sex differences in seasonal release of melatonin have yet to be published. Nevertheless, the work suggests that women and men live in slightly different nightly realms, and that women can add to the lunar timetable on which menstrual cycling is roughly based a gentle adherence as well to the calendar of the sun.

However, Dr. Wehr points out that there may be male cadences as well, perhaps ones operating on a shorter timetable.

The new studies are part of a larger explosion of interest in biological clocks. Several weeks ago, scientists announced the discovery of a gene plants that controls such circadian-based rhythms as the morning unfurling of leaves and the timing of photosynthesis. Writing in American Scientist, Dr. Joseph S. Takahashi, a professor of neurobiology and physiology at Northwestern University, describes efforts to fish out the genes responsible for timekeeping in animals.

One has been found in fruit flies, called the period gene, which assures that newly mature this will emerge from their pupal cases in the morning, when the sun can quickly dry their wings. Another gene identified in the fungus Neurospora controls growth spurts.

Dr. Takahashi and his co-workers are closing in on a gene called clock, found on both mouse and human chromosomes, that, when mutated The surprising new finding is part of a larger causes the body's clock to think the world works

Designers Surf Into Cyberspace

By Suzy Menkes

ARIS — They are the cyberspace generation — the designers from around the world who opened the fall-winter ready-to-wear season. Techno softwear is the message on young fashion's internet: synthetic fabrics, cold, hard computer-screen colors, but for fluid dresses and tactile knits.

The computer age has other aspects: the ability to access and update past images.

PARIS FASHION

And the chance to go channel surfing. Dries Van Noten was a zapping victim. The show he sent out Wednesday was visual chaos as elongated black coats over long skinny skirts switched to big and aggy pantsuits. Here a shiny satin dress then a flash of orange, then a fluffy allenveloping sweater or a lacy shift-dress.

The overall aim seemed to be feminized menswear, using mannish fabrics and shapes. But Van Noten threw his tailoring a giant lapel flower, rather than a curve. The result - and this in a season of shapely clothes -- was a square jacket swimmi over a straight houndstooth-check dress, or the body drowning in shapeless pants.

Forget fashion, here's a bunch of clothes seemed to be Van Noten's message. Some of them were pretty nice, with big flowers printed on satin and subtle mixtures of textures. But the Belgian designer no longer seems to be moving fashion's fast for-

Junya Watanabe's vision was sharp, modern, futuristic.

Against the glass and steel-girder modernism of the American Center, Watanabe sent out tunics and pants in silvery spaceage fabrics, pieced together so that the

seams were pleats opening at the joints.

Think Leonardo da Vinci's anatomical drawings projected to the space odyssey "2001" and you have some notion of the way the outfits outlined the moving parts

of the body. The intricately cut tailoring in stiff, shiny



Flower-patterned, high-shine dress by Dries Van Noten.

fabrics or slender dresses in soft wool were simple modern clothes rather than Star Trek costumes - a step forward for the exassistant at Comme des Garçons.

Plastic and nylon are the fetish fabrics of the 1990s. Dirk Bikkembergs's fine knits -fluffy and cropped short - were shown with shiny, synthetic hipster pants. Plastic was mixed with leather and even airy organza for long coats that swept the ankles over taut, body-conscious stretch outfits.

This show had the forward thrust of modernity that is welcome after so much retro fashion. Black nylon coats (which everyone is showing) and a computer-flower print were mixed well with more classic pepper-and-salt tweed.

For Norwegian designer Pia Myrvold, the show location was just a hole in the ground - a construction site where models walked a wooden plank wearing imaginative knits, some bib-shaped, midriff-cropped or even tufted in plastic, with nylon and clear plastic coats the alternative story.

Andrew Gn in his debut collection accessed images of Yves Saint Laurent's classic safari jackets and slim skirts - and updated them as clean-as-a-whistle tailoring in flexible jersey. His polished, grownup look with elegant hair and makeup showed how fast the new generation is moving away from dressing down.

Marcel Marongiu must have been glued to the small screen watching western mov- in visits to child health clinics, ies. From the long skinny jackets to the colds and vomiting after feed-cowboy hat the designer wore to take his bow, his was a show with a theme, rather than a message. But the lean and mean pantsuits looked well in bruised plum and egeplant colors or in shiny synthetic fabrics. Înès de la Fressange called it "zapping

through childhood" — her cute show of Mary Poppins tweeds in candy colors and velvet collared, nanny-knows-best coats not least on a mini-model who stole the show dressed as Snow White.

Posh and proper England has already proved a mine of creativity for Vivienne Westwood, but de la Fressange's take was spirited and ironic - as were colorful evening clothes, with turbans and dangling beads, in homage to Edith Sitwell, a favorite muse this season.

The crowded official calendar of 43 shows at the purpose-built Carrousel du Louvre is crumbling into chaos - despite an initiative by French journalists to get shows to start on time (read no more than

30 minutes late). With hip designers picking their own time and location — Van Noten in the Botanical Gardens and Martin Margiela in the Bois de Boulogne - fashion followers are hoping that the overloaded system will not crash before the season closes on March 22.

IN BRIEF

Ozone Slows Tree Growth

LONDON (Reuters) — Ozone pollution slows tree growth and even small amounts in the air are enough to have an effect, U. S. ecologists reported Thursday.

Sandy McLaughlin and colleagues at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee measured ozone levels against tree growth over a period of five years. They found even slightly elevated levels of ozone slowed tree growth.

"We can say it has contributed to a 50 percent reduction in growth if we compare the cleanest year to the driest year," said Dr. McLaughlin, who published the findings in the journal Nature. Ozone levels rose in hotter, drier years and fell in wet years.

How Sugar Affects Children NEW YORK (NYT) - Although parents commonly complain that their chil-

dren become wild and inattentive after

eating a lot of sweets, most researchers have steadfastly insisted that the effects of sugar on children are negligible.

But a new study by pediatric researchers at Yale University School of Medicine suggests that parents' observations may be correct. The study showed that within hours after normal, healthy children eat a lot of sugar on an empty stomach, their bodies release large amounts of adrenaine, which causes symptoms like shakiness, anxiety, excitement and concentration problems.

Breakthrough in Agriculture LONDON (Reuters) - Israeli scientists reported Thursday that they had found that genetically modified crops could resist

a weed killer aimed at deadly parasites. In a letter to the journal Nature, they said three different genetic modifications worked well to protect tobacco and rape

plant, flowering only after the damage is done. Thus, weed killers sprayed on the parasite once it appears do little good.

Rethinking Magnetic Fields

WASHINGTON (WP) - A team of scientists is suggesting that every laboratory study of the effects of electromagnetic fields from overhead power lines and electrical appliances on cells may have to be redone.

The scientists, at Oregon State University and the California Institute of Technology, have found that laboratory-grown cells are often contaminated with magnetite, a common magnetic mineral that can exist as a microscopic dust in air and water. These particles may cause cells to go haywire when they are exposed to magnet-ic fields in experiments. Thus any cellular changes, such as cancerous growth, noted (canola) plants from herbicides. Broominers may be the result of ma rapes and witchweeds attack the roots of a tite contamination, the scientists say. in experiments may be the result of magne-

BOOKS

GARBO: A Biography By Barry Paris. 650 pages. \$35. Knopf.

Reviewed by Nicole Arthur

hand-wringing preface ques-tioning the legitimacy of pro-available sources, Paris is suffiducing yet another tome about ciently perceptive to quote Rothe actress. Few figures in this land Barthes's observation that century have been subject to a biography is no more than "a

What he has that previous biographers didn't is Garbo's 50-year correspondence with longtime friend Salka Viertel and 100 hours of taped tele-T is altogether fitting that author Barry Paris opens actress had with the art dealer Garbo: A Biography with a

WHAT THEY'RE READING

 Yoshihiro Wada, president of Mazda Motor Corp., says he is so busy trying to make the automaker profitable that he has had no time to read for pleasure. "I only read material that

Mazda, such as reports. When we're back in the black, then maybe I'll have some time to read something else."

pertains to the management of

(Steven Brull, 111T)



hyperbolically calls "the greatest phenomenon in film — if not all twentieth-century art" was born in 1905 Stockholm to poor parents. The Gustafson family's situation was worsened by father Karl's poor health and eventual invalidism. Greta. youngest of the three Gustafson children, was reportedly her father's favorite. He died when she was 14; it was a devastating blow, not least because it meant that Greta had to leave school and find work. This she did. first as a barbershop "lather girl" and later selling hats at a department store.

It is often the business of biographies to impose portentousness upon ordinary childhoods, but it seems clear that early on Greta evinced many of the traits for which she later became notorious. Friends recall that she was alternately timid and imperious. The scant information available about her

Garbo-scale scrutiny, and Paris himself cites some two dozen existing hiographies.

One date of Garbo's particularly self-aware or status as icon that even the minutiae of her life are hotly concerns. As the spoiled baby of the concerns. As the spoiled baby of the concerns are the spoiled baby of the conce family, she had an almost ego- tested. Uncertainty quickly beof a male authority figure.

> name and advised her on de-portment (urging her to put her She is as enigmatic on the page feet up, he told her: "A film star as she was on the screen. is always tired. It impresses It is telling that, even in her people"). By the following year, autobiography, Garbo does not she had completed two films emerge as a strong personality. (one for Stiller, the other for Yet it is hardly surprising. Al-G. W. Pabst) and been in atten- ways reserved, she became legdance at the now-mythic Berlin endary as a fierce guardian of early life makes a convincing meeting with Louis B. Mayer. her privacy. Furthermore, there

maniacal sense of entitlement; comes a sometimes comical, as a teenager who lost a doting sometimes frustrating recur-father, she craved the assurance rence in Paris's book. Opinions abound on such momentous One such figure was Erik subjects as how the star's Petschler, "the Mack Sennett of pseudonym was selected, but Sweden," who encouraged her the book also includes a fierce to apply for a scholarship at the ongoing debate about her shoe Royal Dramatic Theater Acad- size. Garbo, truly a biograemy after she appeared in one pher's nightmare, generated far of his films. But it was Mauritz more than her share of apocry-Stiller who was to be her men- phal tales. More often than not, tor. In 1923 the academy's di- Paris is forced to present two rector sent Greta to audition for (and sometimes three or four) Stiller's "The Saga of Gosta versions of the same event. Berling." Stiller adopted her as Among the book's countless inhis protégée, and she soon gave terviewees, virtually every ashim charge of her career—and sertion made about Garbo is her life. He chose her new last countered by an assertion of the

pop-psych case for the fact that The rest, as they say, is history. is no reason to believe that she

It is a measure of Garbo's was a particularly self-aware or input from his subject. Paris lets others do the talking. And it's his good fortune that everyone from Tennessee Williams to Ingmar Bergman to Dorothy Parker had something to say about Garbo. The outspoken silent film star Louise Brooks, the subject of Paris's previous biography, provides many of the book's more perspicacious observations.

For the most part, the book's narrative is evenhanded, engag-ing and rich in anecdote. Ultimately, though, "Garbo" gently proposes that the ongoing search for the actress's "mystery" is a wild goose chase. With that in mind, the most

accurate commentary on her career may be one supplied by director Hal Roach: "She was a very quiet girl who happened to photograph terrifically.

Nicole Arthur, arts editor of the Washington City Paper, and he doubled Now everywrote this for The Washington

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

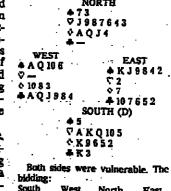
direct raise to the six level Ais rare when an opening bid is doubled, but was entirely reasonable for North in the diagramed deal. He knew that his partnership had at least 12 hearts, and that one or both opponents was void. That it made it very likely that East-West could make a contract or had a cheap save available.

East naturally tried six

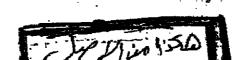
spades over six hearts, and South persevered to seven hearts. This was right in practice, although wrong on a doubie-dummy basis. Six spades would have been beaten if South had been inspired to lead a club, or the diamond king followed by a club shift. Double-dummy, North can score two club ruffs for down two. In team play or a social game. West would probably have takon out insurance by bidding seven spades, willing to pay a small penalty to avoid a disaster. But this was match points. thing hinged on the opening lead, and it seemed highly prob-

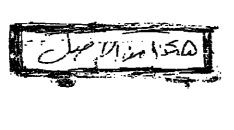
able that the spade ace would

Even if West had been permitted to peek into his partner's hand he would have not known what to do. As it was, he was confident that the club ace would cash. But that card was disastrous, for South was able to ruff in dummy, draw the missing trump, and maneuver to discard dummy's spades. One went on the club king and the other on the fifth diamond. NORTH



1 5°

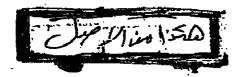


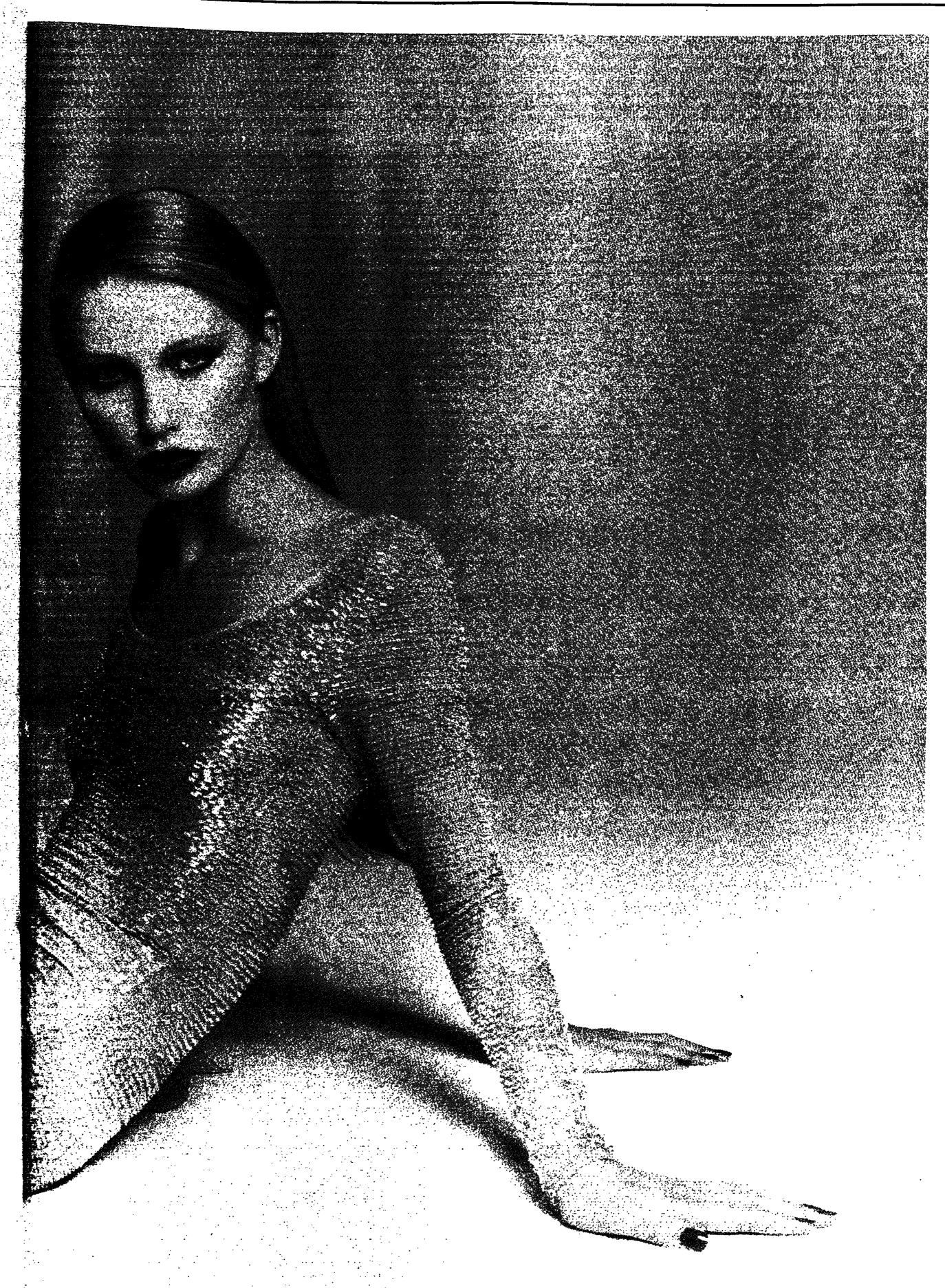


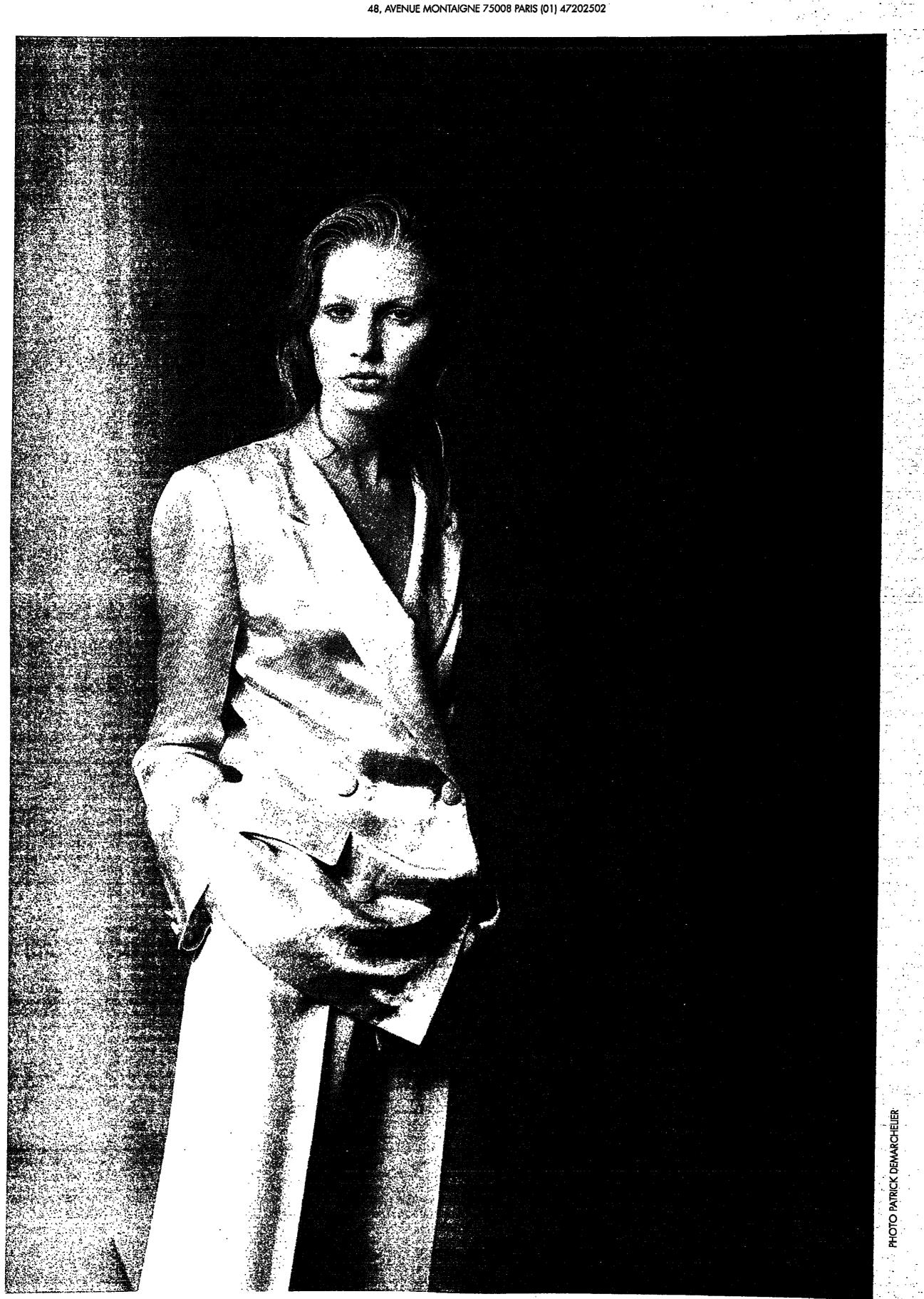


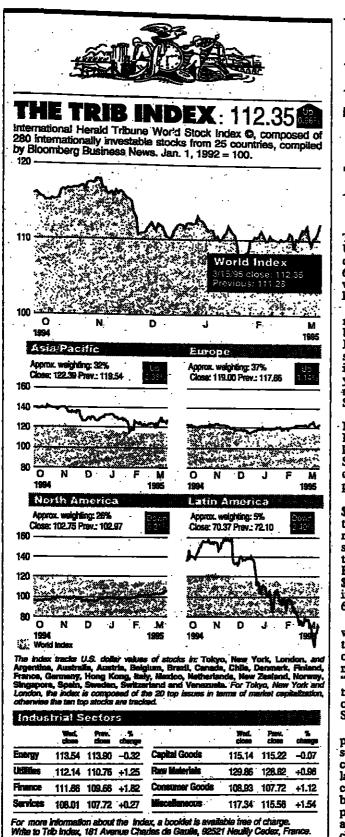
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COLLECTION PRINTEMPS-ETE 1995









Viacom Looks To North

Scandinavian TV Adds U.S. Investor

Bloomberg Business News

LONDON - Paramount Television Group, a unit of the U.S. multimedia company Viacom Inc., has agreed to buy a 6.5 percent stake in Scandinavian Broadcasting System SA, known as SBS.

SBS owns and operates commercial television stations that broadcast in Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Belgium. It has said it plans to launch services in Holland and Finland by midyear. SBS also runs commercial radio stations in Denmark. Sweden and Finland.

Viacom, which owns MTV Networks, Blockbuster Music. Blockbuster Video and the publisher Simon & Schuster, gives SBS a strategic alliance with one of the biggest media companies in the world.

Paramount has agreed to buy \$4 million worth of warrants that would allow it to buy I million SBS shares at \$35 a share over a five-year span. If the warrants were exercised, Paramount would pay a total of \$39 million for the stake which. in fully diluted terms, would be 6.5 percent of SBS.

SBS is already associated with the U.S. broadcaster Capital Cities/ABC Inc., which owns 25 percent of SBS's 13.5 million outstanding shares. "We are aligning ourselves with two of the key software players of the future," said Harry Sloan, SBS's chief executive

Depending on how much SBS programming turns out to be supplied by Paramount, the deal could result in conflicts with EU laws, which mandate that 50 percent of European programming be produced in Europe, when practicable. But Damien Eames, a consultant with Hydra Associates in London, said the laws were not strictly enforced.

SIMEX Criticizes **Barings for Role** In Leeson Debacle

SINGAPORE - Authorities of the Singapore International Monetary Exchange said Wednesday that they could impose fines on Barings for withholding information about Nicholas Leeson's court records.

Mr. Leeson, whose futures trading led to the collapse of Barings PLC, was refused a trader's license in Britain for lying about unpaid debts.

Although Barings knew this, it transferred Mr. Leeson that year to Singapore, where he did not need a license to trade at the Singapore International Monetary Exchange, or SIMEX. according to the British licensing authority. This information should have been disclosed to SIMEX

because it would have been essential in assessing his application to become a trader in Singapore, SIMEX said. According to SIMEX rules, a company that makes a false statement or supplies incorrect information to the exchange can be fined a maximum of 25,000 Singapore dollars (\$17,655). SIMEX officials refused to say whether this rule

would be applied to Barings.

Christopher Sharples, the chief of the Securities and Futures Authority, said in a television interview broadcast on Monday that the authority told Barings it considered Mr.

Leeson, who was then a clerk, unsuitable. "We wouldn't regard it as appropriate for somebody who owes money as suitable for looking after other people's money, so that is why he didn't get a license," he said.

Mr. Leeson's debt of £649 (\$1.028) to the electronics

company Hitachi Ltd. was discovered when checks by the British authority showed a court order against Mr. Leeson. In May 1992, another court ordered Mr. Leeson to pay a debt of £2,426 to National Westminster Bank.

Barings, now taken over by Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV, collapsed at the end of February. Mr. Leeson left Singapore after his trading losses ballooned, causing the demise of Barings. He was caught in Frankfurt, where he is fighting extradition to Singapore.

U.S. Data Fail to Calm Markets as Dollar Slides

By Lawrence Malkin

NEW YORK - The dollar Wednesday suffered from an acute case of investors' nerves ascribed to causes as widespread as Mexico, the Bundesbank and its own recent weakness. It fell to a record closing low against the yen in New York.

The dollar firmed in early European trading and climbed as high as 1.4151 Deutsche marks and 90.80 yen. But it soon plunged by about 2.5 pfennig and 1.5 yen and kept falling further in New York.

By midday, the dollar was trading only about half a yen above the postwar intra-day low of 88.75 yen established in last week's free fall, and it closed at 89.500 yen, down from a closing quote in New York on Tuesday at 90.800 yen. The dollar ended at 1.3895 DM. down from 1.4157 DM on Tuesday.

The drops took place despite a spate of economic news that to enable the country's faltering interest rates, which skyrocketput the Federal Reserve Board on guard against lowering inter- pressure created by Mexico's est rates at its next Open Mar- currency crisis. ket Committee meeting on March, 28,

ued in February at the January finance foreign debt repayrate of 0.3 percent and raw ma- ments, said Domingo Cavallo,

rose a robust 0.5 percent and capacity utilization increased to a cyclical high of 85.5 percent, showing no signs of slowing. But inventories grew by 0.9 percent in January, which could mean that goods are beginning to pile up in factories and

Argentina Raises Taxes for Debt

BUENOS AIRES - Argentina has announced tax increases intended to generate 3.55 billion pesos (\$3.55 billion) of revenue to ensure the country can pay its foreign debt and avoid a devaluation of its currency.

The new taxes come after the government received \$4.7 billion of loans from international agencies and said it was in talks for \$2 billion of additional financing. The loans are intended financial system to escape from

The additional tax income will ensure that Argentina will Wholesale inflation contin- not have to seek extral loans to of the border. terials rose by 1.5 percent, the the economy minister.

biggest gain since December stores, especially automobiles, 1993. Industrial production which had been a source of economic strength.

Later in the day, the Fed's socalled Tan Book of regional economic reports found anecdotal evidence of less vigorous growth and no signs of inflation in wages or finished products, strengthening the case for a possible soft economic landing that would prompt the central bank to leave interest rates unchanged for the present. At the same time, economists in Europe doubted that the Bundesbank would change interest rates at its central council meeting on Thursday. This helped calm ner-

vous markets and the dollar. But on the whole it proved to be a day of reassessment in major financial markets. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond, after rising Tuesday to yield 7.36 percent, the lowest since June 2, pulled back Wednesday and delivered a

yield of 7.39 percent.
This immediately hit the dollar, but some blamed Mexican ed 25 percentage points, to 82.38 percent, on Mexican Treasury bills, making traders worry that Washington would have to inject more funds south

The maturing of \$541 million See DOLLAR, Page 12

France Sees a Future for Troubled Crédit Lyonnais

By Barry James tional Herald Tribune

PARIS - Describing state-owned Crédit Lyonnais as "a great bank with a future" despite potential losses of at least 50 billion francs (\$10 billion), Economics Minister Edmond Alphandery pledged Wednesday that the deficit would be plugged without help from taxpayers.

With the government expected to announce a rescue package for the bank in the next few days, Mr. Alphandery said

that three of its executives, who he did not name, were being held on suspicion would be repaid through profit and sales would not diminish the value of the bank of embezzlement and said that allegations of fraud would be vigorously pursued. But the bulk of the losses, he said, were caused by bad management coupled with a steep decline in property prices. The 50 billion-franc figure mentioned by Mr. Alphandery represents potential losses on asset sales.

Mr. Alphandery, speaking to American and British reporters after presenting the main elements of the rescue plan to the executive Commission of the Eu-

nais, France's largest bank, must "take

But the rescue plan is expected to depress earnings for the next 20 years. Under government proposals, Credit Lyonnais will put up to 140 billion francs into a new company guaranteed by the gov-ernment, which will sell them off as mar-

of assets. The bank is expected to post a in the eyes of future shareholders if the loss of at least 10 billion francs for 1994. bank was privatized, Mr. Alphandery Mr. Alphandéry said Crèdit Lyon- said the losses were manageable.

Banking sources said that they doubtin sail" to reduce its losses as quickly as ed that Crédit Lyonnais would be able possible, while selling some of its assets. ing hand from the taxpayer, even if indirectly. Marc Vienot, chairman of rival Société Générale, said Mr. Alphandéry "got a bit carried away" when he said Credit Lyonnais could entirely fi-

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

Is CEO Overthrow Brewing at Kmart?

By Judith H. Dobrzynski and Stephanie Strom New York Times Service

NEW YORK - General Motors. IBM. Westinghouse. Eastman Kodak. Is Kmart next?

Take a look at the once-powerful discount chain, and it is easy to see why Joseph E. Antonini, Kmart Corp.'s chief executive, might soon become the next corporate chief to be ejected in a boardroom coup. All over the country — every-where the company's relentless rival Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has gone - Kmart has lost ground.

Its piddling sales gains have come at the cost of squeezing profit margins so much that operating earnings have fallen for more than two years. Haunted by poor inventory control, high costs, shabby stores and no strategy to speak of, Kmart's stock, adjusted for splits, is trading about where it was 10 years ago. Despite several attempts, Mr. Antonini has yet to show he can turn Kmart

To the outside world, directors of the Michigan-based company seem to be standing by their man as the board pre-

pares to convene March 28. Indeed, Mr. Antonini's job seems secure for at least the next few months. But behind the barricades, Kmart's directors are starting to split over what course to take, according to people close to the company and to directors. At least four board members, fearing shareholder lawsuits, are learning toward finding a face-saving way to ease Mr. Antonini out.

The board's quandary is one that di-

The answer is never easy. Indeed, enough to please its investors, an outside director, Willie D. Davis, president of All Pro Broadcasting, drew in his breath. "Let me ask you," he said, "what's

into three factions.

rectors all over corporate America face: When a company gets in trouble, how far should they go to change management, and how fast?

when asked if Kmart's board was doing To many of Kmart's disgruntled in-

vestors, the 11-member board has not done nearly enough. Directors took one step in January, stripping Mr. Antonini of the chairman's title and giving it to an outside director, Donald S. Perkins. But in this era of outspoken shareholders, that has not mollified many of them. "We are going to continue to keep Joe's and the board's feet to the fire." said James Severance, executive vice president of the State of Wisconsin In-

Most of Kmart's directors did not return calls, and Mr. Antonini refused to comment. But people close to the company say that Kmart's board is breaking

vestment Board, one of Kmart's largest

Mr. Perkins, a retired chairman of Jewel Cos. who was instrumental in elevating Mr. Antonini to chief executive, remains a strong backer. Most supportive is F. James McDonald, a retired president of General Motors Corp. David B. Harper, a St. Louis banker, also lines up behind Mr. Antonini.

Leaning against him are four members:

Joseph A. Califano, a cabinet member under President Jimmy Carter, Lilyan H. Affinito, former vice chairman of Maxxam Group Inc.; J. Richard Munro, former co-chief executive of Time Warner Inc.: and Joseph P. Flannery, chairman and chief executive of Uniroyal Holding. They are, a person close to the board said, sed, unnerved, scared about be-

ing on the hot seat." Three others are sitting on the fence. One, Enrique C. Falla, chief financial offi-cer of Dow Chemical Co., is said to be increasingly uncomfortable about Kmart's deteriorating condition. As a talented number-cruncher, his thoughts could tip the balance one way or the other. Mr. Davis, once a Green Bay Packer defensive end, and Gloria M. Shatto,

president of Berry College in Georgia, are also undecided but are less influential in the boardroom. If shareholders keep demanding new leadership, any one or more of the 11 board members may prove to be Kmart's Trojan horse. "This thing has got to turn

around in the next quarter or two - in terms of profits," asserted one director, who insisted on not being identified. That would be a tall, probably impossible, order under normal circumstances. The uncertainty surrounding Mr. Antonini makes it even tougher. Employees say Mr. Perkins, who lives in Chicago, is in

Michigan two or three days a week, asking questions and often challenging Mr. Morale among Kmart's staff already low, is sinking further. "Everybody is

See KMART, Page 15

Fokker's Restructuring Narrows Loss

AMSTERDAM - Fokker NV said Wednesday it narrowed its net loss to 449 million guilders (\$282.9 million) last year from 460 million guilders in 1993 and vowed to return to profitability by 1996. Fokker's sales fell to 2.35 billion guilders in 1994 from 3.70 billion guilders in

1993 as the market for regional aircraft Fokker set out a restructuring program last month that is aimed at achieving that goal, which included cutting about 1,800

jobs, closing its plant at the Dutch airport Holding. Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG of Ypenburg, relocating its headquarters owns 78 percent of Fokker Holding, and of Ypenburg, relocating its headquarters to Schiphol Airport and trimming its engineering division.

Costs associated with cutting back the work force were responsible for an extraor-dinary charge of 150 million guilders against 1994 earnings, the company said.
Fokker said during 1994 it booked a one-time extraordinary profit of 427 million guilders from a sale-and-leaseback

leal with Rabobank.

Fokker is 51 percent-owned by Fokker

hands of Fokker. Financial details were not disclosed. (AFX, Bloomberg, Retuers) deal with Rabobank.

the Dutch government owns the rest.

Also on Wednesday, Fokker said it agreed to sell a two-thirds stake in its space subsidiary, Fokker Space & Systems. Fokker said one-third would be sold to Utra Centrifuge Nederland NV and the other third to Parcom Ventures BV, a division of Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV. The remaining third will remain in the

Rubin, an Atypical 'Washington Animal'

By Clay Chandler Washington Past Service

WASHINGTON - Op Thursday morning last week, as the dollar was under assault in international markets, the focus of the financial world was a meeting room in a suburban hotel, where Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin was to address newspaper publishers and editors. Currency traders waited to see how firmly Mr. Rubin would defend the dollar.

What message did he send? "Our policy is to intervene when it makes sense, and not to do so when it doesn't." While Mr. Rubin's circummay prove the wise course, they provoked a global shrug. The dollar rallied briefly after he spoke and then resumed its downward slide.

In his previous job, as chairman of President Bill Clinton's come naturally to him. National Economic Council, Mr. Rubin commanded respect for his deep understanding of world finance and his low-key management style. But in his first three months as treasury secretary — the most visible spokesman for the administra-here is have a more effective tion's economic policies - Mr. Rubin is still struggling to find his public voice.

He cominues to win high

spect comments on the dollar marks for the quiet, behind-thebeen his strength. But the new requirements of being a Cabinet spokesman - skills that seemed sor. Lloyd M. Bentsen - do not

> Mr. Rubin has said he wants Americans to gain a better grasp of how global markets af-fect their lives and how poverty affects inner-city residents.

role in trying to increase public understanding and awareness of issues you think are really important," he said. "I sort of

Mr Rubin also lacks Mr scenes skills that have always Bentsen's knack for tossing off folksy one-liners, Instead, his sentences are often complex and difficult to follow. He will to come so easily to his predeces- start off with an idea, retract it, modify it a little, then think of something else and reel back the revision. Aides have urged him to use feistier rhetoric in

fighting off criticism. Still, many colleagues defend Mr. Rubin's resistance to help from media-savvy advisers as proof of his integrity. "Bob's public-speaking persona proba-bly won't ever be that different from what it is now," said one aide. "He just isn't the typical Washington animal."

CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

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POSITIONS	COMPANY	CONTACT
Business & Market Analyst Europe	A European Carbon Black production leader	SEOUOIA ref: BMA / C3HT Marion DELPARD 9, Cité Trévise 7500º Paris - France
Senior Executives	I.C.A. Newsletter	The ICA Newsletter Box HT - 15, av. Victor Hugo 75116 Paris - France Fax: (33-1) 42.88.72.06
European Sales Manager	-	International Herald Tribune Box 1525 - 63, Long Acre London, WC2E श्रेम - U.K.
International Finances Opportunities	The Coca-Cola Company	Lloyd Morgan Ref: JW/CC Jeremy Williams Africa House - 64-78 Kingsway London WC2B 6AH - U.K.
Managing Director	Pharmaceutical Group	MERCURI URVAL Ref.: 55.2258 / HT 3, cours Albert-Thomas 69416 Lyon Cedex 03 - France

INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT

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Dow Jones Averages

NYSE Indexes

EUROPEAN FUTURES

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Financial

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches NEW YORK - One day after setting new records, U.S. stocks retreated Wednesday in response to higher-than-expect-

ed February wholesale prices. "There's only one thing wrong with the market today. said Thom Brown a money manager at Rutherford, Brown

U.S. Stocks

& Catherwood Inc. in Philadelnumber gave traders a fit of

overbought indigestion."
Stocks were weaker after the U.S. Labor Department said that wholesale prices had 2% to 35%, supplies Motorola climbed a surprising 0.3 percent with digital switches for cellular in February and the Commerce systems. AT&T was unchanged Department said industrial pro- at 521/s.

duction had jumped 0.5 percent. The data led stock investors to fear the Federal Reserve Board might raise short-term rates in a continued campaign against inflation. Higher rates would be bad news for stocks because they would raise corporate borrowing costs.

"The data were fairly benign, but people are still worried about rates," said John Burnett, a stock trader at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 10.38 points to close at 4,038.37, hampered by a decline in Goodyear Tire & Rub-

ber and a slide by Motorola that pulled technology stocks lower.

Losing issues outpaced gainers on the New York Stock Exchange by slightly more than an Il to 10 ratio on active volume of about 311 million shares.

The benchmark 30-year mained unchanged at 7.36 per-

phia. "The producer price index hurt technology stocks after number gave traders a fit of Comcast awarded a \$200 million cellular-equipment order to AT&T instead of to Motorola. DSC Communications, down

Technology stocks were un-

lawsuit accusing Goodyear of stealing its stake in a plant in

(Bloomberg, AP, Reuters)

DOLLAR: U.S. Unit Renews Slide

Continued from Page 11 in dollar-linked Tesobonos this week, confusion about the Bank of Mexico's strategy and widespread fear that the government's economic austerity program may have backfired sent the peso lower on Wednesday,

Foreign Exchange

Reuters reported from Mexico City. The dollar rose to 6.6350pesos from 6.6300 pesos on Wednesday.

"The most obvious culprit is Mexico, and it may be three to same," said James Mitchell of six months before the dollar evolves in a more rational mankets in London. "There are so ner," said Ron Levin, currency many people calling for the dolstrategist at J.P. Morgan & Co. lar at 1.25 against the Deutsche He pointed out that as long as mark and no places to support Latin America remains nervous it that for now 1.32 looks a and volatile, central banks likely target." would have to continue selling dollars.

Treasury bond gained 1/32 to close at 103 6/32. The yield re-

Motorola, down 1% to 57,

der pressure early," said David Butler, head of equity trading at Kemper Financial Services in

Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. fell % to 35 after China Tire Holdings Ltd., China's largest tire maker, filed a \$1 billion northern China

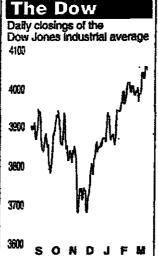
But Union Carbide gained 11/2 to 291/4 after it said its earnings would surpass expecta-

long-term decline that the Brit-

ish pound began in the 1960s as it lost its reserve-currency luster, he said. Adrian Cunningham of UBS Securities in London said the dollar simply "lost momentum" during the day after starting out with the bulls behind it across Europe and failing to continue after hitting what turned out to be a high point with no help from what was essentially neu-

trai economic news from Amer-"I look for more of the

Against other currencies, the dollar closed at 1.1515 Swiss But Mr. Levin and others francs down from a closing rate were reluctant to blame it all on of 1.1760 francs on Tuesday. Mexico. Interest rates on the and at 4.9398 French francs, dollar are not attractive enough down from 5.0145 francs on to pull funds back to a currency Tuesday. The pound rose to that may be in the same kind of \$1.6005 from \$1.5845.



1994

AMEX Most Actives

Market Sales

erations last year.

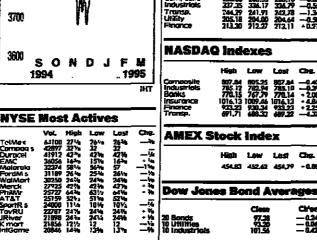
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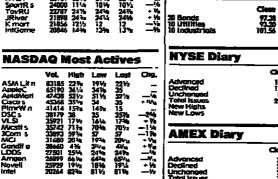
Sanofi, a unit of the French oil company Elf

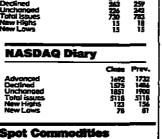
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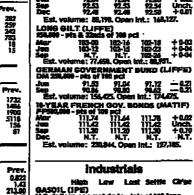
maceuticals and beauty products companies,

said that profit from operations had jumped 13 percent in 1994, to 1.33 billion francs.









3-MONTH EUROMARKS (LIFFE) DMT million - pts of 180 pct

Pharmaceuticals Buoy Sanofi Profit Revenue rose 11 percent, to 26.12 billion

PARIS - Sanofi SA, owner of such fashionable brand names as Yves Saint Laurent and Nina Ricci, said net profit in 1994 totaled 1.51 billion francs (\$300.9 million), up 83 percent from the previous year, aided by the acquisition of Eastman Kodak Co.'s prescription-drugs op-Separately, Sanofi said it would distribute as a special bonus one free share for every 10 shares held. Sanofi said it expected that revenue and profit would rise more than enough to offset the dilution from the 10 percent increase in its outstanding share capital, Jean-Claude Leroy, vice president of finance said.

"That's the spirit of our plan," he said. He said that profit from operations should grow more than 10 percent this year.

WTO Sets New Deadline For Naming a Leader

Stock indexes

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INCREASED

Dividends

GENEVA -- Envoys to the World Trade Organization on Wednesday set a 10-day time limit for a decision in the ninemonth search for a head of the new group.

They also asked Peter Sutherland, the interim leader of the. WTO who had been due to step down Wednesday, to stay on

until April 30.

U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

AMR Cuts Jobs, Shifts Management

DALLAS (AP) — AMR Corp., the parent of American Airlines, announced an overhaul Wednesday that would cut costs by at least \$93 million annually and eliminate 900 jobs at the

country's second-largest air carrier. The jobs cuts will trim the staff of 5,000 at AMR's headquarters in Fort Worth. The company also shuffled its top management. naming Donald J. Carty president of the airline group. He had been executive vice president and chief financial officer of AMR.

The cutbacks were recommended by Boston Consuling Co. which was hired to do a study of the company last year.

Chinese Tiremaker Sues Goodyear

LOS ANGELES (AP) — China's largest tiremaker and two affiliates are suing Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. for SI billion, alleging that the Akron, Ohio-based company unfairly robbed them of ownership of a Chinese factory.

China Tire Holdings Ltd., Orion Tire Corp. of San Clemente, California, and China Strategic Holdings Ltd. of Hong Kong, filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles. The companies said Goodyear knowingly formed a joint ven-

ture with a fire factory in Dalian, an industrial city in northeastern China, that China Tire Holdings already had arranged to acquire.

• Lehman Brothers Inc. said it was being sued for \$58 million by Unipec, a Chinese company, in a dispute over trading losses. The lawsuit, filed Wednesday, was the second in a week in which a Chinese company sued Lehman for losses. (Bloomberg)

Charges Slash General Mills Profit

MINNEAPOLIS (Combined Dispatches) — General Mills Inc. said Wednesday its third-quarter earnings plunged as it took one-time charges totaling \$136.1 million for restructuring and eliminating some operations.

The company earned a net \$5.4 million in the quarter to Feb. 26, down from \$145 million in the year-ago period. Revenue slipped to \$1.29 billion from \$1.35 billion. The company took a charge of \$124.8 million for closing four food plants and closing some restaurants and a charge of \$7.7 million for expenses related to splitting the company.

General Mills plans to spin off its Red Lobster, Olive Garden and China Coast restaurants into a separate company June 1. It plans to concentrate on its consumer foods unit. (AFX, Bloomberg)

Time Warner and Turner Hit Snag

NEW YORK (AP) -Time Warner Inc. and Turner Broadcasting System Inc. ended without resolution a round of talks about Time Warner's desire to sell its 19.4 percent stake in the cable TV

network company.

But published reports suggested people on both sides were still hoping to reach an agreement. The companies declined to discuss the reports.

Time Warner has said it wants to sell its stake in Turner Broadcasting in part to pare an \$18 billion debt. It invested about \$500 million to acquire the stake several years ago when cable system operators became minority owners as part of a financial rescue of the Atlanta-based owner of Cable News Network.

Du Pont Stake Helps Seagram Profit

NEW YORK (Combined Dispatches) — Seagram Co. said Wednesday its fourth-quarter net profit rose 30 percent, to \$191 million, helped by a strong performance by Du Pont Co. and an

Seagram's stake in Du Pont lifted its earnings by \$77 million. the company said. Seagram's revenue rose to \$2.23 billion from \$1.99 billion in the quarter to Jan. 31. (AFX, Reuters)

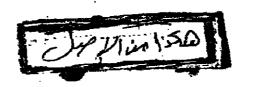
Heinz Sees Sales Increase for Year

BOSTON (Bloomberg) — H.J. Heinz Co. said Wednesday it expected revenue of \$8 billion in the 1995 financial year and was "aiming for" about \$9 billion in revenue in fiscal 1996. In the year ended in April 1994, Heinz had revenue of \$7.05 billion. Anthony J.F. O'Reilly, the chairman and chief executive of Heinz, said the company would nost a 45 percent increase in Heinz, said the company would post a 45 percent increase in operating earnings for the fourth quarter of its 1995 financial year.

For the Record

Union Carbide Corp. said Wednesday it expected its first-quarter earnings on a fully diluted basis to exceed analysts' estimates of 80 cents to \$1.10 a share.

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BASEL - Swiss Bank Corp. said Wednesday that its net profit fell nearly 41 percent last year as volatile financial mar-kets slashed income from trading.

The banking company earned a net 811 million Swiss francs (\$687.6 million) in 1994, down from 1.37 billion francs in 1993. Operating profit fell to 6.66 billion francs from 9.18 billion.

The uncertain interest- and exchangerate trends and the volatility this conveyed to the financial markets had an unfavorable impact on SBC's net trading income," the company said.

Trading profit fell to 990 million francs from 2.92 billion francs, with the bank's securities trading unit posting a loss of 86 million francs, down from a profit of 1.25 billion francs in 1993. Currency-trading profit fell 18 percent, to 780 million francs,

was 4 percent lower, at 43 million francs. Net interest income fell 9 percent, to 2.77 billion francs.

Net commission income was little changed at 2.57 billion francs. The bank's asset-management unit saw income rise 19 percent, to 1.56 billion francs, while brokerage income fell 22 percent, to 646 million francs. Income from securities underwriting fell 36 percent, to 136 million francs.

The difficult trading conditions outweighed a sharp drop in provisions for bad debts and a drop in expenses. Swiss Bank's loan-loss provision fell to 1.02 billion francs from 2.77 billion the previous year. At the same time, administrative ex-

penses fell 4 percent last year. Georges Blum, chief executive of the bank, said he was "confident" of improved

the financial markets. Swiss Bank's bearer shares rose to 254

francs on Wednesday, up 4.
(AP, AFX, Bloomberg, Reuters) ■ Société Générale Profit Rises 7% Société Générale said Wednesday its net profit rose nearly 7 percent last year, helped by a sharp drop in loan loss provi-

sions, news agencies reported from Paris. The bank carned a net 3.85 billion French francs (\$767.2 million) last year, up from 3.61 billion francs in 1993. The provision for bad debts fell to 5.09 billion francs from 7.21 billion francs.

But operating profit slipped to 10.54 billion francs from 12.31 billion, hurt by a drop in income from trading, which fell to 1.1 billion francs from 3.6 billion francs in (Knight-Ridder, AFX)

Market Likes Schneider's Plans for Spie

PARIS - Financial analysts on Wednesday welcomed a plan by the French electrical company Schneider SA to absorb its unprofitable public works unit Spie Batignolles SA.

Schneider said it expected to report a net profit of 700 million French francs (\$139.5 million) for 1994, up 73 percent from the 405 million francs in 1993.

Trading in Schneider shares was suspended in Paris pending publication of details of the plan. While it was allowed to trade, the stock rose as much as 4.9 percent, to 360 French francs. Trading in Spie Batignolles shares was suspended Monday.

The two French companies said Tuesday that their boards had agreed in principle to fold Spie into Schneider and that Schneider would offer 227 French francs for each Spie share in public hands.

The price represents a 68 percent premi-

um on Spie's last-traded price of 135 francs, the companies said.

"It's a good price. I was pleasantly surprised," said Ken Rumph, an analyst at

Schneider already owns 59 percent of have got such a high price if a foreign company had offered to buy it, he added, given that the company has steadily lost money in recent years.

The construction company expects to report a loss of 810 million francs for 1994, ecause of huge losses and provisions for property, and has had to put aside 300 million francs against unpaid bills.

Schneider stands to gain around 600 million francs in tax savings from Spie's losses, which it can use to shelter future profit. A foreign company would not have been able to use that tax shelter.

Schneider will retain its name after ab-Spie shareholders would probably not sorbing Spie. (Renters, Bloomberg, AFP)

EA-Generali Predicts Win FRANKFURT - A major In Bank Bid

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches VIENNA — EA-Gener-ali AG said Wednesday it was confident it would win its bid for the Austrian government's remaining 49 percent voting stake in Cre-ditanstalt-Bankverein. The Austrian insurance

company is part of a consortium that bid about 9 billion schillings (\$670 million) to gain control of the Austrian bank.

Allianz AG Holding, a potential competing bidder, has reportedly lost interest in the bank.

The EA consortium in-Banca Commerciale Italiana, Austria's Erste Oesterreichische Sparkasse-Bank AG and several Austrian industrial companies. (Bloomberg, AFX)

Northern

Won't Block

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches LONDON - Northern Elec-

tric PLC, which clung to its in-

dependence last week when a takeover bid by Trafalgar House PLC failed, said Wednesday it would agree to

the conglomerate making a fresh bid within a year.

Under British rules, compa-

nies that fail in takeovers usually

cannot make a fresh bid for a

year unless the offer is recom-

But Northern Electric, the first of a dozen privatized re-

gional electricity companies to face a predator, said when cur-

rent confusion over possible new

electricity price limits had been

cleared up by the industry regu-

lator, it was willing to support a wavier of the 12-month rule.

At the same time, Northern-Electric also said Trafalgar's re-

vised bid of £9.50 (\$15) a share,

which was rejected on Friday,

enough. If we thought it was enough, we would have recommended it on Friday," the company said. "If they want to come back and rebid they can."

Northern said Trafalgar may

want to reevaluate its bad in

(Reuters, AFX, Bloomberg)

"We don't think £9.50 is

was still too low.

mended by its takeover target.

A New Bid

German Banks Find Support

German industrial association has entered a public debate about the influence that banks wield over industry, voicing its opposition to measures aimed at curbing banks' power.

The BDI association said Wednesday that it opposed the elimination of proxy voting rights as well as attempts to limit bank stakes in industry.

The association said German industry depended on strong support from the financial sector and that limiting banking anthority would hurt rather than help Germany as an industrial center.

Germany's Social Democratinsurance sectors, and the coalition government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl has also said it intends to limit the power of

The BDI said it was follow-

CANON INC.

Addice has been received from fokyo that the 94th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Campany will be held at the Head Office of the Company,30-2 Shirnomanulo 3-Chorne,Otrio-Ru, Tokyo,at 9a.m. on Thusday,30th Morch 1995.

Matters to be Reported

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Matters to be Resolved

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to Directors and Statutory Auditors
to be Retired.

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tion of Three Statutory Auditors.

ing with concern the public de-bate on the role of German banks in industry.

proxy voting power of banks was an absolute necessity for shareholders and companies.

The BDI also said that individual cases, such as the nearcollapse of Metallgesellschaft AG, the German conglomerate, were being generalized and that debate concerning such cases was being steered into a narrow discussion on the impact of banking powers on industry.

Proxy voting by banks has also proven its worth, the BDI added. The association said that those who wanted to elimi-

The association said the ern Germany.

Eliminating it would allow minotity shareholders to gain influence out of proportion to their holdings, it said.

The BDI also said that the introduction of an external party for proxy voting was not a practical alternative because it would simply shift the supposed power of the banks to a

The association also said that nate proxy voting were ignoring a limitation on bank stakes in the fact that shareholders them-industry was problematic and selves now assigned the power that the criticism of stakes came of attorney to banks. Under at a time when industry was German law, a shareholder can depending on the active inic party presented legislation in authorize a 15-month power of volvement of the financial seclate January aimed at curbing and attorney that can be canceled at tor, particularly regarding the economic development of East-

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Money Managers Figure the Angles Of a Chirac Win

PARIS — As opinion polls show Jacques Chirac the front-runner in France's presidential race, international money managers are trying to figure out whether that is good or bad.

The very thought of a President Chirac generates an almost Pavlovian response among many investors: Franc falls, bonds slip. The conventional wisdom is that the Paris mayor and leader of France's biggest

political machine, the Rally for the Republic party, is a populist. He is expected to prime the fiscal pump in a drive for jobs, while letting market forces, rather than German interest rates, determine the franc.

A cornerstone of French economic and political life has been the franc fort. The strong franc policy seeks to support the currency by linking French interest rates to German ones.

"Foreign institutions are concerned about Chirac's deliberate ambiguity on franc fort, EMU, ERM and a single currency," said Paul Horne, international economist at Smith Barney Inc. in Paris, referring to European monetary union and the ex-change-rate mechanism.

Mr. Chirac is to reveal his views on the future of the European Union and a single currency Thursday.

Mr. Home described Mr. Chirac as "a bit of a political opportunist" but said that did not necessarily mean that bad for the markets.

By his reckoning, Mr. Chirac could get away with putting job creation first.

PERSONALS

cit reduction effort begun under Prime Minister Edouard Balladur.
"I think he really means it

when he says he wants to get going on the jobs front," Mr. Horne said of Mr. Chirac. Consider the idea of lowering interest rates in an independent policy of going for jobs. If they kept fiscal discipline, the markets might ac-

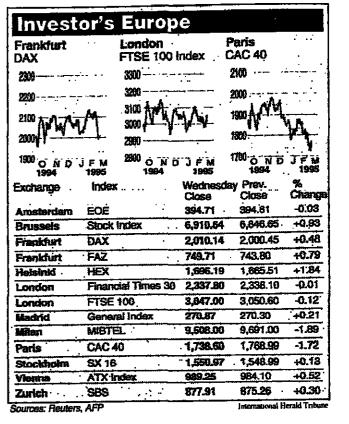
Mr. Home was primarily referring to the market for the franc and French bonds, which hate inflation. Stocks are another matter. There, inflation is less a concern and the prospect of higher economic growth is welcome.

Michael Browne, Europe-

an Equity Fund Manager at Chase Manhattan Bank. controls \$150 million worth of stock-market investments. He says the mind-set of France's power elite government leaders and corporate chiefs — opposes the sort of policy change Mr.

Chirac represents. "France needs tight fiscal policy and loose monetary policy," he said. "For Chirac to achieve the maneuver that we would want in the equities market would necessitate a major change in the economic conventional wisdom that exists in Paris today in companies and the government intellectual elite."

For investors ready to bet that Mr. Chirac will win, here's the strategy, as Mr. Golden tells it: "The simplest strategy if all you're doing is a Chirac presidency would be borrow six-month money and sell the franc short. Borrowing is going to cost you in a move of that magnitude in The trick will be to keep the franc is well on the cards



Very briefly:

• Reed Elsevier PLC, the Anglo-Dutch publishing company, said its profit surged 16 percent, to £620 million (\$982.58 million) in 1994, and it cited successful integration of acquisitions.

• Schroders PLC said pretax profit in 1994 was £195.4 million, virtually unchanged from 1993, as a 50 percent jump in fund-management profit offset a decline in banking income.

 Germany's machinery orders rose 21 percent in January from a year ago and foreign orders are expected to be the major growth area for the year as a whole, according to German Machine Makers' Association.

 Britain's unemployment rate fell to 8.4 percent of the work force in February from 8.5 percent in January.

• British Aerospace PLC said it would lay off 1,350 people from its dynamics division as a result of a shrinking world market for defense products, the British Broadcasting Corp. reported.

• Deutsche Babcock AG said cost-cutting measures helped more than triple net profit, to 68 million Deutsche marks (\$48.2 million), for the year ended Sept. 30. The company also said it would restore dividend payments of 5 DM per common share for 1994, its first payout since 1988.

• Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV and Vodatone Group PLC together won the license to build and operate the Netherlands' second mobile-phone network.

• Grolsch NV, the second-largest brewer in the Netherlands, said it booked a net profit of 52.4 million guilders (\$33.0 million) in 1994, up 10 percent from the previous year, and it cited cost savings, interest income and a one-time gain from the sale of a unit. Bloomberg, Reuters, AFX, AFP

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CITIC Leader Steps Down, Citing His Age

BELUING — Wei Mingyi will resign as chairman of China International Trust & Investment government's overseas invest-

ment company said Wednesday. A spokesman for CITIC said Mr. Wei submitted his request to retire to the State Council, saying that at 71 years old, he

was "too old to go on." China's financial rumor mill switched into high gear this week after Mr. Wei failed to submit his resignation at a Sunday board meeting, which sources had said would be the likely venue for his retirement. A CITIC spokesman said Mr. Wei made his decision "several days ago" and he had informed the company at the annual directors' meeting on

Western sources have said that Mr. Wei appeared to be an associate of the senior leadstepping down to take responsibility for a costly futures frasco

Nearly 10 months ago it became apparent that the Shanghai operation had run up losses of \$40 million in unauthorized Corp. after all, executives of the trading of base metals, mainly copper, through 14 London Metals Exchange brokers.

it was unknown if Mr. Wei had direct knowledge of the trading. But an executive at CI-TIC's administrative secretariat said Wednesday that "this had nothing to do with the Shanghai losses. It has merely to do with his advancing age.

The executives would not comment on reports that Mr. Wei would be succeeded by Wang Jun, 53, the president of

A western banker said last week that Mr. Wang would be an obvious choice because of his seniority, good connections and qualifications — and because of his father, Wang Zhen,

er, Deng Xiaoping.
The Chinese cabinet has the at CITIC's Shanghai unit, final say over the top appoint-which operates independently. ments at CITIC. (AFP, Reuters)

China Permits Licensing Of Hong Kong Phone Rivals

HONG KONG — China has endorsed the granting of four licenses to operate telephone services after Hong Kong Telecommunications Ltd.'s monopoly franchise expires June 30.

Hong Kong Telecom will hold one of the licenses, but will be competing with Hutchison Communications, a unit of Hutchison Whampon Ltd.; New T & T, owned by Wharf (Holdings) Ltd., and New World Telephone, a unit of New World Development Co. The licenses are for fixed-link domestic telecommunications

services. Hong Kong Telecom, which is controlled by Cable & Wireless PLC, will retain a monopoly franchise on international services until 2006.

China's blessing was required because the 15-year licenses extend well beyond 1997, when Hong Kong is due to revert to Chinese sovereignty from British control. The approval came through the Chinese side of the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group, the body set up by the two countries to discuss issues affecting the transition to

The three newcomers are expected to focus on specific market niches when they start up later this year, while Hongkong Telephone will continue to dominate residential telephone services. Hutchison Communications said that it has already installed an

"intelligent network infrastructure" built by Siemens AG of Germa-

(Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg, AFP)

Raider Picks Hard Target China Fund Managed by Government

By Kevin Murphy International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG - About three years ago, investors paid a hefty premium to own shares in China Assets Holding Ltd., a China directinvestment fund run by one of Beijing's best-

connected companies.

Now, with China cuphoria fizzled, one militant shareholder has targeted the poorly performing Hong Kong-listed fund managed by China Venturetech Investment Corp. - regardless of the affront it might cause China Venturetech's parents, China's Finance Ministry and the cabinet-level State Commission for Science and Technology.

The clash between Regent Fund Management, an upstart group known for raiding other people's funds, and China Venturetech is being closely watched in Hong Kong, where local and foreign businesses normally walk on eggshells when China Inc. is involved.

The case is noteworthy, too, further afield. Other asset managers with China funds could find themselves vulnerable to attack, analysts said, owing to overall lame performance and the slow, vexing nature of direct investment in

"We're not out to antagonize anyone or any country deliberately," Regent's chair-man, Jim Mellon, said. His firm has targeted seven other investment funds for takeover or break-up in recent years.

But we don't care whether we upset sensibilities in China or not and, we think, nor do other hardened institutional investors around the world," he added.

A closed-end fund is essentially a company that owns a portfolio of investment holdings and whose shares are traded on a stock exchange. A raid on one seeks to exploit the differences between the net-asset value of the

holdings and the value the stock market puts on the fund, as reflected in its share price. In the case of China Assets, at one point the market rated it at an 80 percent premium to its net asset value of \$77 million, based largely

on the China bullishness of 1992 and 1993.
Widespread belief that its politically wellconnected management company would sniff out the sweetest deals, projects and compa-nies in which to invest before they were listed on booming stock markets or sold to new investors helped considerably.

But in the current hangover period for China investment, China Assets has seen its share price shrink to less than half of its netasset value, a discount that prompted Regent to amass a 10 percent stake in the company and demand a major shake-up.

In most other raids, Regent has persuaded other shareholders to support its bid to delist the funds and divide the net-asset value of the funds among the shareholders on a unitized basis as in a mutual fund or unit trust.

But with China Assets sitting on considerable cash reserves, 43 percent of total assets, or about \$33 million, Regent is calling for an immediate cash payout and liquidation of investments held in China over time — a

move China Venturetech vows to fight. "They don't know how to manage assets in China, and they certainly don't know how to liquidate assets in China," said an executive close to China Assets.

Myriad regulatory obstacles, sketchy accounting procedures and China's economic chaos have kept many fund managers with a mandate to invest in Chinese companies frustrated and still heavily cashed up.

In response to Regent's unwanted atten-tions, China Assets said that it had approved several investments that would spend most of the cash reserves.

Qantas Gains Market Share

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches SYDNEY - Qantas Airways Ltd., the largely govern-ment-owned Australian airline set to be privatized, said Wednesday that net profit rose 80 percent in the six months through December, largely on a big increase in its share of the domestic passenger market.

Qantas said profit in the first half of its fiscal year, after taxes and one-time charges, was 128.5 million Australian dollars (\$95.8 million), up from 71.7 million Australian dollars in the like period the previous year.

Revenue rose 10 percent, to 3.67 billion Australian dollars.

The airline said it would not pay changed at 1.48 billion dollars. any dividends to its two share. Sales from services to and from holders, the government and Japan, once an earnings power-British Airways PLC. Australia house for the airline, declined.

Chairman Gary Pemberton ain and Continental Europe. said that the Qantas had successfully regained leadership in the a significantly higher full-year domestic market and streamlined international operations.

Domestic operations added fit 50.9 million dollars to profits, he said, while international operations provided 102.4 million dollars. The airline said domestic rev-

billion dollars. Revenue from stake in the next fiscal year. international services was little

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owns 75 percent of the company. as did sales on services to Brit-

Mr. Pemberton also forecast lars recorded for the 1993-94 financial year.

Finance Minister Kim Beazley said the profit figure was "pretty much" in line with the vernment's expectations. He said the profit would not affect enne rose 19 percent, to 1.664 plans to sell the government's (Bloomberg, AFP, AFX)

Asia Stocks Follow Dow For Gains

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches HONG KONG — Asian markets closed sharply higher Wednesday following the record gains on Wall Street on Tuesday. In Hong Kong, the strongest buying was in blue-chip property stocks, following the successful conclusion of a government residential property auction Tuesday. Brokers also attributed the gains to the belief that the market will not suffer from

rising interest rates. The blue-chip Hang Seng index surged 270.63 points, or 3.34 percent, to 8,365.21, its

highest close this year. "The Wall Street performance is quite strong," said Mark Gallagher, an analyst at Dao Heng Securities. "Not just equities but bond prices have gone up steadily. It translates into an increasing crystalization of the view that the interest rate peak is not far off,"

In Tokyo, computer-driven buy orders spurred the Nikkei 225 index in Tokyo rose 421.01 points, or 2.59 percent, to 16,666.83, its biggest increase in six weeks

But the increase was largely limited to stocks listed on the benchmark index.

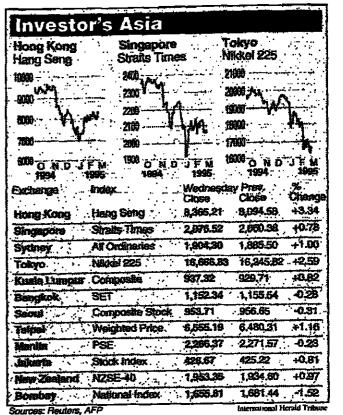
"Only shares in the Nikkei were higher due to arbitrage-linked buying, and others didn't move much," said Harushige Kobayashi, deputy general man-ager at Yamaichi Securities Co.

(Reuters, Knight-Ridder, Bloomberg) ■ Thailand Bolsters Stocks

Thai financial authorities have stepped in to breathe life back into the stock market, which has plunged nearly 15 per-cent since January due mostly to tight liquidity and foreign sell-ing Reuters reported Wednesday from Bangkok

After emergency consulta-tions with top financial officials, the Securities and Exchange Commission cut the initial margin requirement for stock investors by 10 percentage points, to 40 percent, effective Wednesday.

Four of Thailand's top banks said Tuesday that they would increase their interest rates for the second time in two weeks. The increase came on top of the central bank's move earlier this 10.50 percent from 9.50 percent.



Very briefly:

 Asia Satellite Telecommunications signed an agreement to lease transponder on the AsiaSat 2 satellite to Marconi Global ications for Portuguese-language broadcasts.

 Export-Import Bank of Japan's president, Hiroshi Yasuda, expressed disappointment with a decision to merge his bank with another governmental financial institution, the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund in 1999.

• Tomen Corp. has agreed to set up an alliance next month with U.S.-based Continental Cablevision Inc. to start cable television networks in Japan.

• Peter Woo will resign as chairman of Wheelock & Co. in 1996 and then serve as honorary chairman of the Hong Kong conglom-erate. He will be replaced by Vice Chairman Gonzaga Li. • Itochu Corp. has taken a 30 percent stake in a \$100 million

commercial and office complex property development in Shanghai, the Lippo Group subsidiary Hongkong China Ltd. said. China is considering introducing an inheritance tax, according to

the Beijing Youth Daily. • India's new federal budget, issued Wednesday, increases welfare

spending and subsidies while lowering tariff. . Moody's lavestors Service has upgraded to AI from A2 its rating

on foreign currency obligations issued by Malaysia. PepsiCo Inc. and Kraft General Foods Inc. said they will team up

to sell ready-to-drink canned coffee in China. • Hong Kong will introduce legislation later this month imposing tough penalties against copyright piracy, the trade and industry

• South Korea's gross domestic product rose 8.4 percent in 1994, from 5.8 percent the year before, following a final-quarter surge. North Korea's foreign trade plummeted in 1994 to \$1.83 billion. the lowest level in 16 years and a 20.6 percent drop from 1993. according to South Korean figures. Sharp declines in trade with

China and Russia led to a deficit of \$210 million. • Sega Enterprises Ltd. said authorities in China had seized month to raise the bank rate to counterfeit copies of its video-game machines and software. Bloomberg, AP, Reuters, Knight-Ridder, AFP

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KMART: Dismay Endangers CEO

waiting for the other shoe to

drop," one top executive said. The conundrum is giving directors plenty to think about. "You couldn't be around Kmart today," Mr. Davis said, "and not be concerned that the company is not where we want to see it be."

Traditionally, directors delay for months, if not longer, before taking strong action. Typically, you see material stock-price underperformance for at least two mission member who teaches at Stanford Law School, said.

GM, for example, lost sales to competitors for years before di-rectors rose up. Even then, be-fore ousting the chief executive, Robert C. Stempel, the board named a chairman of the execumonths later, as Mr. Stempel stuck to a go-slow strategy, did year, it was 22.7 percent. Shoppers insist on the

Kodak Co. and Westinghouse many of which are concerning their chiefs.

Even if Mr. Antonio

hear is, 'This is how we're going to be better than we were. That's a failing retail strategy.

went awry. Efforts to close for a bit longer, weak stores, cut costs and cen-tralize inventory management ing, on May 23, will probably are not stanching the bleeding. be one rancous show.

In 1994, Kmart sold more than \$2.5 billion in assets, using the cash to pay down debt and finance capital spending and de-

The introduction of combined grocery-discount stores did not prove profitable and has been scaled back. A plan to bolster sales by offering a better mix of apparel backfired, costing Kmart hundreds of millions of dollars in markdowns.

All told, sales climbed a modest 6 percent, to \$34.03 billion years before anything happens, in the year that ended Jan. 31, Joseph A. Grundfest, a former Securities and Exchange Company's operating profits fell 89 percent. In company's operating profits fell 89 percent. In company with the company's operating profits fell 89 percent. In company with the company of in the year that ended Jan. 31. trast, Wal-Mart - with roughly the same square footage as Kmart — had sales of \$82.49 billion, a 22 percent increase

from the previous year. Kmart's share of the discount store market was 34.5 percent in 1987 when Mr. Antonini took tive committee. Only nine over, according to estimates by months later, as Mr. Stempel Tactical Retail Solutions. Last

Shoppers insist on the best Similarly, International Business Machines Corp., Eastman are found at Wal-Mart stores, many of which are cleaner and

Even if Mr. Antonini has a By almost any measure,
Kmart is overdue for a boardroom coup, and the investor anger is palpable. "You never hear
Kmart say, "This is how we're
going to get ahead of the
curve," a disgramtled institutional holder said. "What you
hear is "This is how we're going to take some time
to make all of this work."

The heard way have hittle The board may buy a little

more of that precious commodity in the next few weeks when it The directors have bungled adds two directors. If the new nearly every effort to save the directors are strong indepencompany without changing the dents and if Mr. Antonini can quickly produce some positive An attempt to hire a No. 2 note, Kmart may muddle along

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INTERNATIONAL BOND TRUST will pay out a dividend of USD 0.80 on March 17, 1995.

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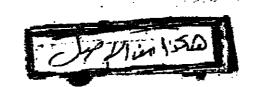
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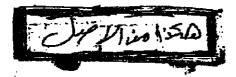
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Baseball Club Owners Face Going To Court, and Losing

By Murray Chass

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida - For the third time in three months, the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board has found reason to issue a complaint against major league baseball's club owners, charging them with violating labor laws. For at least the second time, the owners. nevertheless, claimed victory.

The owners also accused the union of continuing to stall at the bargaining table — "The union is caught up in this surreal game of Chutes and Ladders," said Stan Kasten of Atlanta — but they left would look them out. Walt Disney World just as union officials were arriving for a meeting with players in nearby Orlan-

The developments Tuesday left virtually no chance for the two sides to negotiate an agreement that would get the striking players in uniform by opening day, and little chance for the players to end their strike with the aid of court action by the April 2 opener.

Fred Feinstein, the labor board's general counsel, announced in Washington that the owners would be cited for eliminating salary arbitration and the anti-collusion provision in the ing the day's events was titled free-agent rules. Daniel Silverman, director of the board's New York regional office must be in the bargain through PRC." York regional office, was to issue the complaint on Wednesday.

Feinstein didn't say whether he would ask the agency's five-member board for permission to seek an injunction in U.S. District Court that would force the owners to restore the previous working terms and conditions, but there was little question that he would take that step, too. Even Chuck O'Connor, man-

agement's chief labor lawyer, who probably would seek an injunc-

Feinstein is expected to forward his request to the board by the end of this week, and the board is expected to act - favorably - by the end of next week. That would put NLRB lawyers in court around March 27.

Donald Fehr, the union leader,

Rob Manfred, a management lawyer, said the clubs would have to vote on a lockout, but he acknowledged that it wasn't clear whether the vote would have to be a majority or three-fourths of the

In commenting on the board's action, the owners chose to emphasize the board's refusal to cite them for taking the position that individual player contracts have to be negotiated centrally through the Player Relations Committee, the clubs' labor arm, and not with individual clubs.

The clubs' news release cover-

They played down the board's view of their position on salary arbitration and free agency. After Feinstein informed the owners Feb. 3 that he was prepared to issue a complaint against them for illegally declaring an impasse unless they withdrew their unilaterally implemented salary cap, the owners attempted to portray the settlement as a victory for

In December, the board issued met with Feinstein on Tuesday, a complaint against the owners said, "I heard him to be saying over their failure to make a \$7.8 that having issued a complaint, he million payment to the players' pension and benefit plan last

Aug. 1. Both in a statement and at a news conference in Washington, Feinstein urged the two sides to return to the bargaining table. "There is nothing in these charges," he said, "that should in any way impede the ability to resume negotiations immediate-

In discussing the union's unfair labor practice charge recently, one owner expressed no concern

for what the board might do.
"We know the NLRB will always rule in favor of a union," the owner said. "Our lawyers let us know the chances of management winning in front of this board are slim. But rulings don't mean beans. It's what happens in court that counts."

He was, in a sense, correct. Whatever the board does -issue a complaint, seek an injunction — the action ultimately will be determined in court.

Since Feinstein became general counsel two years ago, the board has approved every request he has made, more than 100, to seek an injunction. Then a U.S. District Court

judge has to decide whether to grant it. So if the courts are the battleground where the owners will choose to make their stand, it would be worth knowing how the NLRB has fared in court. The owners, on second thought, might not want to know.

According to board statistics, during fiscal 1995, which began Oct. I, the NLRB has won injunctions or gained settlements of cases 83 percent of the times it has set out to get injunctions.



Shaquille O'Neal was outnumbered, and eventually overmatched, by Karl Malone (left) and the other Jazz.

Jazz Make Magic's Home Court Edge Vanish

The Associated Press For one night at least, Orlando Arena elonged to the Utah Jazz.

The best home court advantage in the

NBA wasn't enough to get the Magic past the streaking Jazz, which won its

NBA HIGHLIGHTS

ninth straight, 107-95, Tuesday night. It was only the Magic's second home loss of the season in 34 games.
But for Utah, winning away from the
Delta Center has become routine.

"I think the thing I'm happiest about is that there wasn't a whole lot of whooping and hollering in the locker room," said Karl Malone, who scored 27 points against Shaquille O'Neal & Co. "It's just another win.

In snapping Orlando's 11-game home winning streak, the Jazz improved to 22-1 against Eastern Conference teams, in-

cluding 11-0 on the road.

John Stockton had 18 points, 18 assists and 8 rebounds, while Utah's bench out-scored (33-12) and out-rebounded (18-2) Orlando's reserves. Antoine Carr led the way, scoring four of his 14 points in the last two minutes, and Adam Keefe contributed II points and 10 rebounds.
O'Neal led Orlando with 29 points and 11 rebounds. Anfernee Hardaway had 24 points and Nick Anderson 17 for

Orlando, whose only other loss at home came against the Seattle SuperSonics. Suns 116, Pistons 109: Phoenix broke

a two-game home losing streak and stayed even with the Jazz for the best record in the Western Conference.

Charles Barkley had 30 points and 10 rebounds, scoring nine points in the first 7:22 of the fourth quarter.

Allan Houston scored 35 points for the Pistons, who were without leading scorer Joe Dumars. He sustained a concussion Sunday night in a collision with Seattle's Shawn Kemp.

Rockets 136, 76ers 107: Clyde Drexler scored 26 points to key visiting Houston's biggest offensive output of the sea-

The Rockets had eight players score in double figures as they extended their winning streak to three games and overcame a 50-point performance by Philadelphia's Dana Barros.

Spars 115, Thuberwolves 100: David Robinson had 24 points and 10 rebounds

as San Antonio shot 61 percent...

SOCCER

Red Wings Romp, as Kings Help

grers

The Detroit Red Wings are the No. I team in the Western Conference and you really have to hand it to them.

Which is just what the Los

Angeles Kings did.
You can't expect to kill penalties all night against a team like that," Los Angeles' coach, Barry Meirose, said following Tuesday's 5-2 loss. The Kings made it easy for the Red Wings by giving their nine power plays. The Red Wings

NHL HIGHLIGHTS

scored on three, while the Kings were 0-los-4 with the advantage. Vyachesiav Kozlov had two power-play goals and an assist as the Red Wings ended the Kings' three-game road win-ning streak. Keith Primeau scored the other power-play goal for the Red Wings, while Sergei Fedorov had a shorthanded goal for Detroit.

want Steven Rice had two goals and an assist as the Hartford Whalers scored five straight power-play goals to defeat the New York Islanders.

Rice set up Andrei Nikoli-shin's goal at 7:50 of the second period, which began Hartford's comeback from 3-0. Rice scored

the eventual game-winner at 2:41 of the third period.
Salves 2, Fanthers 1: Yuri Khmylev had an assist and scored the game-winning goal 54 seconds into overtime for the visiting Buffalo Sabres.

Although Buffalo goaltender Dominik Hasek inadvertently kicked the Florida Panthers' lone goal into his own net, he ed, turning saide 32 shots.

SCOREBOARD

WESTERN CONFERENCE

211. Rebounds—Houston 50 (Brown 10). Philic-delable 37 (Westherspoon 8). Assists—Houston 33 (Smith 10). Philicelable 22 (Barros 8). Chicase 25 29 31 21—104 Westhington 27 27 26—53 C. Phaper 12-174-730. Longley 4-142-214; Westher 9-13-0-18. Mureson 10-15-1-3 21. Rebounds—Chicase 45 (Pippen 10). Washington SI (Mureson 14). Assists—Chicage 30 (Pippen 10). Washington SI (Howerd 5). Utch 27 21 24 33—107 Griands 41 7 21 21—95 U: Malante 9-19-9-12 27, Stockton 7-12-2-2 18; C: O'Neal 10-19-9-16-29, Hardway 7-18-8-7-24. Rebounds—Utch 51 (Malante 13). Orlando 49 (Gronn 14). Assists—Utch 29 (Stockton 18). Orlando 17 (Hardaway 5).

Desiver 26 22-25, RWilliams-5-122-2 13; N: Ewing 8-55-54 21, Harper 5-9-2-2 14. Rebounds—Denver 45 (Levingston 5). New York 63 (Coddey 17). Assists—Cenver 13 (Rose 4). New York 23 22 23 18-28-49 (Chaurling 6-106-718. Curry 7-120-017; M: Baker 6-16-6-012. Robbinson 9-24-8-9-27. Rebounds—Chyriotic 5 (Mourning 1-). Milway-bounds—6, Milway-10, Milway-10 महर्ग्य संस्थान स्थापन

Baker 6-16 8-0 12, Robinson 9-24 8-9 27, Re-bounds—Charlotte-45 (Mourning 14), Milway-kee 60 (Robinson 13), Assists—Charlotte 22

D: Hill 10-17 5-4 26, Houston 9-17 9-10 35; P: Barkley 10-21 8-13 30, Molerie 7-12 7-7 22, Re-bounds—Detroit 46 (Milia B), Phoenix 48

8: Brown 8-21 5-7 24, Dougles 9-24 9-14 25; S: S: Brown 9-12 3-4 23, Kennp 9-11 5-9 21, Re-bounds—Boston 78 (McDaniel 8), Seattle 59 (Kernp 11), Assists—Boston 16 (McDaniel 7), Seattle 29 (McMillian 9), Dollars 22 25 21 23—77 Socramente 22 21 28 19—98

3: Gront 11-19 54 27, Polynice 8-13 1-1 17. Reboards—Dollas 54 (Jones, L.Willierns 12), Socramente & (Polynice 18), Assists—Dollas 20 (Kidd &), Socramente 22 (Webb 9),

NHL Standings

N.Y. Islanders 2 1 1—4 Hartiard 8 3—6 First Period; N.Y.-Ferraro 13 (King); N.Y.-King 6 (Perraro, Stanton); (po).Second Period; N.Y.-Turpean 9 (House, Malakhov); Hillionishin 2 (Sanderson, Rice); (pp). H-Rice4

ratkolishin 2 (Sonderson, Rice); (pp), H-Rice 4
(Wasiey, Kucara); (pp), H-Turcatte 12 (Kron,
Kucara); (pp), Third Period; H-Vertneck 6
(Cosseis, Wesley); (pp), H-Rice 5 (Nikolishin); (pp), N.Y.-Turpeon 10, IH-Kron 9 (Verbeek, Cosseis); Shets on goal; N.Y. 11-1010--31, H 10-17-14--41, Goalies; N.Y.McLennon, H, Burke.

1 1 9-2 By 1 1 3-4 19d; O-Yoshin 13 (Elymuik, Mo-L-Albelin 2 (Guerin); Second Peri-

B-Audette 11 (Khrnyle

D-Kazlov 7 (Coffey, Cleconelli); (pp).Second Period: D-Fedorov 13 (D. Brown); (sh) D-Pri-meou 5 (Coffey); (pp).Third Period: D-Cic-

meou 5 (Coffey); (po).Third Pariod; D-Clo-coretti 10 (Koziev, Kanstontinov); LA-Teo-chet 14 (Guinu, McSoriev); cishiD-Koziev 8 (Ciccorelli, Lidstrem); (po). Seets on gest: LA-7-3-72—22 D 16-13-14—3. Geoltes: LA-Hrudey, D. Osgood.

Vancouver

1 1 3—3

First Period: V-Momesso 5 (Linden, Bure); (pp).Second Paried: W-Zhomstov 13 (Selamne, Emerson); (pp). V-Hedican 1 (Sure, Routtu); W-Tkochuk 13 (Selamne); Third Pe-riod: W-Zhomstov 14 (Nugambou, Milau-chiki): V-Linden 11 (Momessa, Pecal); Over-tisms: None, Stotsed geal; V14-5-14-5—40. WB-17-84—30. Geotles: V, McLean. W, Khabibutin.

itme: None. Shorsed seni; V14-5-16-40. WB17-54-37. Goeffes: V., McLean. W.,
Khohibujin., St. Loofs 8 3 2-5
Edmostes 9 3 3-6
First Period: None-Second Period: SL-Koromnov 1 (Corbonneou); SL-Duchasne 3 (I,
Loserfere); E-Arnott 7 (Weight, Oliver);
(pp). E-Colket 9, E-Colker 10 (Arnott,
Weight); (pp). SL-Stostinv 1 (Lidster); Third
Period: E-Froser 3 (Thornton, Marchant); 8,
SLLouis, Corbotneou 5 (Miller, Houlder); EBuchberger 4 (Richardson, Marchant); 11Weight 2 (Buchberger, Richardson); 15L-Duchesne 4 (Korpurnov, Tardif); Shots en goal: S.L. 8-11-10-29. E 9-6-10--25. 84

World Cup Results

Results of Wednesday's roce in the World Cop finals at Bersale, Baty: 1, Luc Alphand, France, 1:5130; 2, A.J. Kiff, U.S. 1:5179; 3,

Lasse Klus, Norway, 1:53.92; 4, Peter Rashak, Austria, 1:53.96; 5, Patrick Ortites, Austria, 1:53.97; 6, Kristian Ghadina, Indry, 1:54.03; 7, Armin Assinger, Austria, 1:54.09; 8, Wenner Parathoner, Indry, 1:54.37; 9, Xovier Gigander, Switzerland, 1:54.65; 10, Goenther Mader, Austria, 145.30

Switzerlond, 1:54.65; 10. Goenther Moder, Austria, 1:54.70.
Fixed Downhill Standings: 1, Luc Alchand, Franca, 484 points; 2, Kristian Ghedina, Italy, 473; 3, Portick Orthick, Austria, 485; 4, Armin Assinger, Austria, 419; 5, Josef Shrobi, Austria, 20; 6, Kyle Russmussen, U.S., 286; 7, Honnes Trinki, Austria, 273; 8, Werner Peruthoner, Italy, 287; 9, Lotse Klus, Norway, 227; 16, Jeon-Luc Cretier, 254.
Overnil World Cap Standings: 1, Alberto Tomba, Haly, 1889 points; 2, Jure Kosir, Slove-tio, 700; 3, Marcs Girrardilli, Lucembourn, 570;

Piero (87th)
Juventus witos 4-7 on operacole.
Secusia Darbaund 2, Lacle 8
Scorers: Choputat (17th), Riedle (19th),
Scrussia wins 2-7 on oppracole.
Odente SK 8, Purnos 8
Pormo wins 1-0 on oppracole.
Heates 6, Bayer Lever(conn 5.
Lever(conn 5.
Lever(conn 5.
CUP WIMMERS' CUP
Concheritada, Second Lag Tombo, Holy, 189 points; 2. Jure Kosir, Save-nio, 700; 3. Marc-Girordelli, Luxembourg, 670; 4. Guesther Abder, Austria, 697; 5. Lasse Klus, Norway, 699; 6. Luc Alphand, France, 699; 7. Klettl Andre Ammodt, Norway, 602; 6. Kristian Ghedion, Huly, 383; 9. Patrick Ori-leb, Austria, 546; 10, Arysto Assinger, Austria, 489

WOMEN'S DOWNSHILL
Results of Wednesday's race in the World
Cut floots at Bermio, Matrix 1, Picobo Street,
United States, 1:38.41; 2. Warwara Zelenskois, Russia, 1:38.51; 2. Barbara Merila, Italy,
1:38.71; 4. Hillory Lindt, United States, 1:38.64;
5. Katta Selzinger, Germany, 1:38.91; 6. Michaela Dorfmelser, Austria, 1:39.65; 6, Heidi
Zurbriogen, Switzerland, 1:39.80; 9. Vreni
Schneider, Switzerland, 1:39.80; 10, Fiarence
Mannada, Franca, 1:39.87. WOMEN'S DOWNHILL

Quarterflade, Second Log Chaisso 2, PC Bruges 6 , Scorers: Stein (17th), Furiang (36th), Cheises wins 2-1 on augrepaie, ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

UBFA CUP erilects: Secon letrockt Frank

Piero (89th).
Juvenius wing 47 on aggregate.

TRANSITIONS

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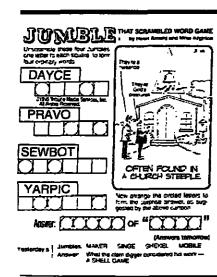
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NEW JERSEY-Acquired Shown Cham-

ch, Andre Powell rus



"_.But, if you can't bring me a pony, How about a little brother?"



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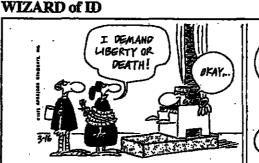


THE FAR SIDE

"Well, heaven knows what it is or where it came from—just get rid of it. But save that cheese first."

THEY'RE ON CALDHOARS WHAT A SPIRITUAL AGE WE LIVE IN. BOOKS, GREETING CARDS LAUMOST EVERY PRODUCT

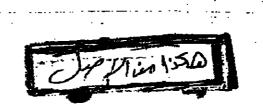






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SOUTHAMPTON, England The three Premier League players questioned by police about allegations of bribery and match-rigging were released on bail Wednesday without being charged, police said.

Goalkeepers Bruce Grobbe-laar of Southampton and Hans Seger of Wimbledon and Aston Villa striker John Fashanu will be required to report back to police stations for further questioning, the police said. The Malaysian businessman

Heng Suan Lim was also released, as was Fashanu's girlfriend. Melissa Kassampasi, later in the day. Fashano, on his release, said

he was "completely innocent" and denied any knowledge of what the police were investigat-Grobbelaar, at a hastily ar-

ranged news conference in Southampton after his release. thanked his fans for their support but said nothing directly about the allegations. His lawyer, David Hewitt, said, "He has not been involved in any ctiminal act whether alone or

with other people."

Earlier, the police had been granted an extra 12 hours to question Grobbelaar and

"They must report back to Hampshire police stations at a future date but I am not sure what the date is," said a police spokesman in the southern English city.

• The former president of the other French team involved in the Olympique Marseille bribery trial gave a boost Wednesday to Bernard Tapie's claim that the Marseille chib's owner was a victim rather than the instigator of a 1993 match-rig-

"I firmly believe that Bernard Tapie was not aware of the corruption, or at least that he was unaware of the means of payment," the former Valenciennes president, Michel Coencas, told

Jean-Pierre Bernes, the Mar-E. 127 TV E seille club's former director general, told the court earlier that Tapie personally hatched the match-rigging scheme aboard his yacht six days before Marseille won the European

> Tapie, a member of the French and European parlia-ments and a former cabinet minister, countered that Bernès concocted that account to bolster his own defense.

Bernès also accused Valenciennes' former coach, Boro Primorac, of knowing about the bribes and threatening to expose them unless Marseille agreed to a counterproposal: to settle for a draw rather than a

Coencas, the first person to testify who was not among the defendants in the case, flatly denied that his club had offered anything to Marseille.

He was temporarily released from prison to give evidence at the trial. He is being held in connection with an unrelated business corruption probe. (Reuters, AP)

14 Secures Informati

ACROSS

1 CD follows

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1995

Herald Eribune



Veteran midfielder Frank Rijkaard unintentionally used his head to foil Split's Mirsad Hibic. Ajax Amsterdam won, 3-0.

PSG, After a Scare, Defeats **Barcelona in Champions Cup**

By Ian Thomsen rnational Herald Tribuni

PARIS - An idol was overturned Wednesday night, and it remains to be seen what Barcelona's 2-1 defeat in the return leg of its Champions Cup quarterfinal will bode for Johan Cruyff. For Luis Fernández, the victorious coach of Paris St. Germain, a trip to the European semifinal comes from beating the man he most respects, deservedly so, and at Cruyff's

Needing only a scoreless draw to advance to meet AC Milan in the semifinals — the hosts found themselves one ag-onizing goal down in the 49th die or live with an all-out attacking side, and for him the fast for Aitor Beginstain to tap best hopes came true on an it across the border open wide equalizing header by Rai, fol- one stride before him. post by Vincent Guerin - the bolted into action nonetheless.

ising evidence that both teams were strongest at the fore. PSG took its strength to another dimension, with David Ginola repeatedly probing the left flank from the fifth minute, when his cross was headed by George Weah over the tiny and helpless Sergi Barjuan, and tipped over the bar by Carlos Busquets. Friendly surroundings for the Barcelona goalkeeper — three times more the wood would

As the worst Catalan fears were forming — fears considered ever since Romario's move back home to Brazil - the unresult of PSG's 1-1 draw in Bar-celona two weeks ago — the suddenly beating two defenders to the end line and whistling a low ball along the border. It was minute. But then Fernández a certain opening goal for most had chosen two days earlier to partners, certainly for Romario; but it came and went too

help him in the first half.

lowed in the 83d minute by a No one else would frighten low, long shot inside the left PSG in the half, but the hosts unlikeliest of scorers in this out- understanding that Stoichkov's last appearance in the Parc des

The match began with prom- Bulgaria past France on its unpredictable way to the World Cup semifinal. PSG moved up trying to score as well as to keep Barcelona from scoring.

Ginola was having his way with José Cobos down the left side, then suddenly was swooping in from the right to land a soft cross off the post. Weah peppered a shot just wide with his seldom-used left foot, and the constant pressure delivered a header for Rai flicked off the post by Busquets after Valdo had intercepted the goalkeeper's weak clearance.

No news was good news for PSG, so long as the ball could be kept away from its beleaguered back line lacking the injured Brazilian sweeper Ricardo and the suspended defender Alain Roche.

But clues recalled from the first half — Cobos's exploitation in defense by Stoichkov, misplays by Antoine Kombouare and goalkeeper Bernard Lama - were ruthlessly exposed four minutes into the second half when Ronald Koeman's short free kick was headed by José Maria Bakero, and no defense in sight.

Panic was the first PSG reaction, as substitute José María Garcia Lafuente was twice allowed to sneak alone into Parisian half -his first move saved hysterically by Lama. At the other end, Ginola was putting yet another shot off the crossbar, and the entire house shrugged disconsolately around

Perhaps this wasn't their night — until the 73d minute, when Paul LeGuen's free kick was headed in by Rai for the equalizer that would soon allow Paris to serenade the name of Vincent Guerin all through the

To subscribe in Switzerland

Bayern, Ajax and AC Milan Also Gain Cup's Semifinals

Compiled by Our Staff Prom Dispatches

Bayern Munich, down to 10 players when goalkeeper Sven Scheuer was sent off after 20 minutes Wednesday night, squeezed through to the semifi-nals of the European Champions Cup on the away-goals rule with a 2-2 draw against IFK Gothenburg. Bayern will play Ajax Amsterdam in

With Scheuer dismissed for bringing down forward Mikael Martinsson out- another to force an extension. attacks for the rest of the first half. But after the break, the visitors

changed gear to full speed ahead. vert a golden opportunity alone with the ending the match.

Gothenburg goalie Thomas Ravelli early in that half, scored in 64th minute.

penalty area, where he found a hole in team into the semifinals. the tight Swedish defense, and fired a shot that was out Ravelli's reach. linger made it 2-0 on a well placed volley after a corner kick.

The stunned Swedes fought back with two goals, but did not manage

The 2-2 goal was scored by Martinsson on a fine volley shot. But then it

iothenburg goalie Thomas Ravelli ear-in that half, scored in 64th minute.

Ajax 3, Hajduk Split 0: A stylish victory capped by Frank de Boer's memorable free kick put the Dutch

De Boer's second goal, in the 67th hot that was out Ravelli's reach.

Eight minutes later, Christan Nerkick around a five-man wall, the shot leaving Hajduk goalkeeper Tonci Gabric with no chance of stopping it.

After drawing, 0-0, in Split two
weeks ago, the Amsterdam club never

appeared close to losing at home. side the penalty area, Bayern, held to a Mats Lilienberg, who substituted goalless draw in the first-leg match in for Mikael Nisslon in 77th minute, Munich, staved off the few Swedish made it 2-1 only three minutes later.

Hajduk scarcely troubled the Ajax goal, its best two chances both long-range free kicks by Aljosa Asanovic in Hajduk scarcely troubled the Ajax

the second half. The Croats managed to hold Ajax was 94 seconds into extra time, and 30 for most of the first half, but Ajax Alexander Zickler, who failed to con- seconds later the referee blew the whis- finally found a way through in the 39th

Ronald de Boer passed to Finnish Ajax, strengthened by Ronald de international Jan Litmanen, who was Boer's return in a midfield role to acstanding just onside. Litmanen raced commodate Kanu up front, and with to the byline before chipping the ball Marc Overmars restored to the wing, towards the goal from the right and the attacked with pace on both flanks.

18-year-old Nigerian Nwankwo Kanu

The Croatian side, which had no headed it home at the near post.

Five minutes later, De Boer, a defender, made it 2-0 when his flicked header off Finidi George's corner beat the diving Gabric.

Afterward, De Boer admitted he'd meant to flick the ball on, not in. De Boer should have scored three times, but in the 71st minute he chose to pass to Litmanen with only Gabric

to beat. Litmanen's resulting miss was

which kept the score respectable for Hajduk.

gone beyond the last eight in this competition, was playing without the injured Ivica Mornar and the suspended Darko Butorovic and appeared shaky from the start. Goalkeeper Gabric was shown the yellow card as early as the 27th minute for wasting time.

The Croatian side, which had never

Benfica 0, AC Milan 0: Milan, a five-time winner hoping to tie Real Madrid's record of six Champions Cup titles, gained the last four by holding Benfica without a goal in Lisbon and advancing on the strength of its 2-0 victory at home. (AP, Reuters) one of a number by Ajax attackers

just call, toll free. 155 57 57

Street Wins Downhill 5th Straight, in Final

The Associated Press BORMIO, Italy — Picabo Street wrapped a sensational World Cup season Wednesday as the American skier won her fifth consecutive downhill tri-umph in the finals of the yearly competition of Alpine skiing.

Street edged, by nine-hundredths of a second, Warwara Zelenskaja of Russia in a repeat of last week's downhill finish at Lenzerheide, Switzerland.

Barbara Merlin of Italy beat another American, Hilary Lindh, for third place.

Street, 23, who had clinched the World Cup downhill title prior to the Bormio race, flashed down the 2,358-meterlong Stelvio track in I minute, 38.41 seconds.

She became the first American woman to win the downhill place.

Zelenskaja was clocked in 1:38.50, Merlin in 1:38.71 and Lindh in 1:38.84, with Olympic downhill champion Katja Sci-

18 Fired up

21 Working

24 Finery

27 Den

28 Latin I word

30 "Hurry up!"

32 Give it

33 Miss Otis

29 Like Amundsen

se Took up again

49 Web-tooted

43 High pair

44 Queen of

47 Bel --

45 Kind of crab

49 What a good

49 Home of the

so Shade of blue

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55 At an angle

57 An old story

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19 Holiday exhibit

zinger of Germany, finishing a disappointed fifth. The top finishers clocked top

speeds of 115 kph down the steep course, dropping 714 meters, which hosted the 1985 world championships.

Defending World Cup overall champion Vreni Schneider held a 19-point lead over German runner-up Seizinger as she did unexpectedly well in the downhill, which is not the favorite race of the Olympic slalom champion.

Schneider placed ninth, 1,39 seconds behind Street, and had 1,119 points.

Lindh, who won two races early in the season, finished second in the downhill standings. Seizinger finished in third "To tell the truth I was sur-

prised I won today," Street said, adding that "it must be my lucky streak." She slightly injured the fin-



Picabo Street got her hands "on the crystal bowl."

gers of her left hand when she referring to the World Cup tro-hit a gate during Monday's phy. practice, but said she was not The women's downhill hampered in the race.

minered in the race.

"I can't wait to get my hand of eight finals that continue in the crystal bowl," she said, through Sunday.

Tomba, Sitting at Home, Finally Gets His Title, as Alphand Wins Downhill

The Associated Press

BORMIO, Italy — Alberto Tomba, ending a nine-year quest, on Wednesday won his first World Cup overall title without taking the slopes as five-time champion Marc Girardelli finished 17th in the season's last downhill and failed to collect the points he needed to threaten Tomba's victory.

The race was won by Luc Alphand of France, with A.J. Kitt of the United States finishing second.

Alphand's third triumph this season, in 1 minute, 53.50 seconds down the steep Stelvio track, earned him the World Cup downhill title. He became the first Frenchman to win it since Jean Claude Killy in 1967.

Kitt, producing his best downhill result this season, finished 0.29 seconds back. Lasse Kjus of Norway was third, in 1:53.92.

Kristian Ghedina of Italy, who had been the downhill

leader, came in sixth, 0.53 seconds behind the winner, to finish second in the Cup standings. Tomba, Italy's most popular

and most successful World Cup skier with 43 victories and seven speciality Cups, has 1,050 points in the overall standings, putting him 350 ahead of Jure Kosir of Slovenia and 380 ahead of Girardelli as the World Cup finals continue with a super-G Thursday, a giant slalom Saturday and a slalom Sunday.

A victory is worth 100 points,

won, at last," Tomba said by telephone from his home in Bologna.

Pirmin Zurbriggen, his Swiss teammate Paul Accola and Gir- gemar Stenmark in Val Gardeardelli, who compete in all Alpine disciplines, barely beat out Tomba for the overall titles in 1990, 1992 and 1993.

celed, and speed skiers were not helped by the points system. I could have won more than one World Cup," Tomba said, adding that "if you visit the homes of Zurbriggen, Accola and Gir-ardelli, you will find the Cups which belong to me."

"If the combined were can-

He became the first technical skier in 17 years to win the men's overall crown. He said he planned to arrive in Bormio on Thursday. His first final is Saturday's giant slalom, in which he shoots for the speciality title. second place 80 and third place He has already won the slalom

"I can celebrate now that I taly's previous overall trimathematics show that I have umph in the World Cup dated back to 1975, when Gustavo Thoeni, now Tomba's personal coach, won his fourth title following a last-race duel with In-

> Stenmark, who also did not compete in speed races, won his last World Cup in 1978.

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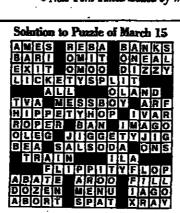
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O New York Times/Edited by Will Short:



SIDELINES

Former Champ Kipkoech Dies at 33

NAIROBI, Kenya (Reuters) — The former world 10,000-meter champion Paul Kipkoech died Monday night in a hospital in the remote rural center of Kapsabet, near his home in the Rift Valley, athletics officials said on Wednesday. He was 33. Kenya's sports commissioner, Mike Boit, said Kipkoech died

after a short illness, but no details were given.

Kipkoech won the 10,000 meters at the 1987 championships in

Rome, then quit running in 1988 in a dramatic move that

underlined Kenyan athletes wrangles with officials over cash with Kipkoech protesting at the time that a car he won at an international meet in Europe had been taken by an official. Last year, he attempted a return with a few road races and halfmarathons in the United States and Europe, but returned to his

farm to grow maize. For the Record

Damon Stoudamire, Arizona's star guard, has had his eligibility restored for the NCAA tournament, but teammate Ben Davis remains ineligible, the university said.

Kent Niksson, the 38-year-old Swede trying to return to the Edmonton Oilers after being out of the NHL since 1987, has ended his comeback, the team said; he will be replaced by Mats Lindgren, a 20-year-old prospect from Sweden, who is due to arrive Friday.

Karl Heinz Weigang, the veteran German coach, has been signed to train the Vietnamese national squad, the federation said.

Mark Duper, the former wide receiver of the Miami Dolphins, was found not guilty on all charges of attempting to buy cocaine, convert it to crack and sell it. The U.S. soccer team said that four television networks -ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and the Prime Network 22 - had agreed to

broadcast 84 of its matches through 1997. Ouotable Blackie Sherrod in The Dallas Morning News: "Grapevine

reports that Mike Tyson is down to 182 pounds, which must mean his prison has lousy food or an unimaginative pharmacy."

• Larry Andersen, a pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, on Pedro Borbon, Cincinnati's 48-year-old and fat replacement pitcher: "He gives new meaning to that term 'Big Red Machine."

Mexico Is Out as Host Of '97 Championships

The Associated Press

MONTE CARLO -- Mexico City withdrew Wednesday as host of the 1997 World Outdoor Athletic Championships.

President Ernesto Zedillo, in a drid and Barcelona. letter to the International Amateur Athletic Federation's president. Primo Nebiolo, said his tion, said Spain would decide country's financial crisis made it within a week whether to sup-

would do "everything possible now to find a suitable and digpetition all its federations to bid nified alternative to Mexico. number of alternatives" to named by June I, he said. choose from and a new site

considered a leading contender with critics complaining about to replace Mexico. Athens has already been selected to stage the 1997 world indoor champiwas no reason the city could not host both events.

would be selected shortly.

view that "we have been promised that we will get them."

But the IAAF's spokesman, Christopher Winner, categorically rejected that assertion.

"We have made no promises position to do so at this stage,"

have to go through the bidding process just like any other na-

Geraldo Cebrian, spokesman for the Spanish track federaimpossible to stage the event.
Nebiolo said the IAAF
1997, or Seville for 1999.

Winner said the IAAF would

Other possible candidates in-

clude the Spanish cities of Ma-

for the 1997 championships. He said the IAAF had "a The new venue is expected to be The IAAF selected Mexico as the 1997 host in Nov. 1993. The IAAF sources said Athens is choice was a controversial one,

the city's altitude and pollution. Nebiolo announced last week that the 1997 championships will onships, but officials said there be the first to offer prize money.

 The Chinese team competing at this year's champion-Stratos Molyvas, head of the ships, Aug. 4-13 in Gothenburg. Greek Athletics Federation, has turned down hotel accomclaimed in a telephone inter- modations in favor of army barracks, organizers said.

The 30-member Chinese delegation, including athletes, coaches and officials, will stay in barracks in Boraas, 50 kilometers (30 miles) southwest of to any nation, nor are we in a Gothenburg in order to promote a "team feeling," organiz-Winner said. "The Greeks will ers said.

Smoking Out Lawsuits

decision to sue the tobacco who are nonsmokers." companies could be a big bonanza for lawyers.

cigarette will be joining the million, but the judge threw it

'class action." I was in Palm Beach the other day when I overheard the conversation of two people standing out-Avenue.

The man lit Buchwald up two ciga-rettes and then handed one to his companion.

"Who is your lawyer?" he asked the woman. She inhaled deeply and replied, "Arnold and Porter. I tried to get Mayer. Brown and Platt, but they had a conflict because they were representing the tobacco auctioneers of

America. Who's yours?"
The man puffed nervously, "Kaye, Scholer. I showed them an X-ray of my chest, and they said they'd take me on contingency. Although I do have to pay expenses.

"Are you going to go for a jury trial?" the woman asked. The man said, "My lawyer good impression on the jury,"

WASHINGTON — The feels that it's the only way to go, providing we can get 12 jurors

"I have a friend who sued Philip Morris and had F. Lee Everyone who ever smoked a Bailey as counsel. He won \$10

> out." "How come?" the man asked. "Apparently one of the jurors had sold his horse to the Mariboro Man. Have we got time for one more?"

> They lit up two more cigarettes. "I'm requesting compensation for pain and suffering. People treat you like a leper if you start pulling on a cigarette in their presence."

The woman agreed. "You can say that again. Half the eli-gible men in this town won't go out with me because I smoke." The man started to blow smoke rings in the air.

"It's gotten so bad that every time I light a cigarette after making love to my wife she makes me go outside." The woman said, "That's aw-

"It's worse than that. Our apartment is on the 34th floor." The woman asked, "Do you think that they'll let us smoke in

the courtroom? The man replied, "My lawyer told me that even if they did, he didn't think it would make a

Satyajit Ray's Films Being Preserved

NEW DELHI — Crumbling celluloid prints of the late Satyajit Ray's films, which opened India to film enthusiasts in the West, are being re-

constructed to preserve them. Ray, who created a new genre of movies in India and won widespread acclaim for his portrayal of society and poverty, shot most of his movies in the 1960s and 1970s. He died in April 1992.

| Tomacreta | To

Calcutta's hot and humid weather, combined with poor preservation facilities is ruining most of his films, The Statesman reported. The Indian filmmaker Ismail Merchant has started a project to create new prints of Ray's classics like the Apu trilogy and "Charulata." New negatives are being made for eight of the three dozen films that Ray made and new sound tracks are

being recorded.

Outspoken Turkish Author Faces Trial

By John Darnton New York Times Service

I STANBUL — In physical stature, Yasar Kemal, Turkey's best-known and best-loved novelist, is decidedly Hemingwayesque — a big, barrel-chested man who looks as if he's ready to wrestle with the devil. And that, a lot of people feel, is exactly what he's

Kemal, 71 or thereabouts - such things are a bit vague in the wild mountains near Adana where he was born — is facing the wrath of the avenging state.

Turkey has charged the author under Article 8 of the Anti-Terror Law. That is a catch-all provision about advocating separatism, and it is being applied because of an article he wrote for the Jan. 10 issue of Der Spiegel, the German newsmagazine, describing the oppression of fellow Kurds in his country.

Then when he published the essay in a collection of writings by Turkish authors here, titled "Freedom of Expression and Turkey," he was charged again under Article 8, along with the publisher. The book was banned and

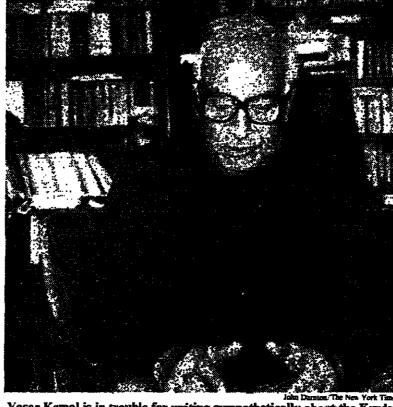
There was another charge in between - something about causing divisions in society, he said.

The writer faces two to five years in jail on two of the charges, three to six on the third. His trial is to start on May 5. It consumes him and has totally intruded on his writing.

"When I go to court, I'm not even going to defend myself," he insisted, pouring coffee with the bounce of an irrepressible host, "I will make a speech — you know, like Emile Zola, J'accuse!"

At another point, pacing though his book-lined, five-room apartment, he had a brainstorm. Talking about a State Department report castigating Turkey for rights violations, he said: "Maybe I'll submit the report. Then I'll subpoena President Clinton!"

There are those who think it was not too smart for Turkey to indict its preeminent man of letters, someone who has been awarded an honorary degree by the University of Human Sciences in Strasbourg and the Legion d'Honneur, Commandeur, in Paris, whose



Yasar Kemal is in trouble for writing sympathetically about the Kurds.

books have been translated into some 30 languages, and who is a perennial candidate for the Nobel Prize in Liter-

His appearances for hearings in court so far have tended to put the spotlight on Article 8. The Human Rights Association, a nationwide monitoring group, says that 118 peo-ple are currently jailed under it. An-other 2,139 have been convicted but are appealing their sentences, and 5,600 others have been charged and are awaiting trial.

When Kemal turned up on Jan. 23 at a special security court, more than 40 other writers, artists and intellectuals came along in a show of support.

The article in Der Spiegel, "Campaign of Lies," accused the government of systematically oppressing Turkey's 10 million to 15 million Kurds, espe-

cially in the insurrection in the southeast. In the 10 years of fighting there, human rights groups have documented widespread executions, disappearances in the custody of security forces, tor-

in the custody of security forces, torture, and the burning of villages.

"A tracedy of the human race is
going on," he said in an interview, and
nobody — neither the United States
nor Europe — pays attention. It is
generally thought that about 14,000
have died in the conflict.

Kemal says in the article that he does not advocate a separate state for Kurds. But he suggests that he can understand, given their treatment, why some Kurds do. That is close to heresy in Turkey, where the 1923 republic founded by Ataturk was based on the core principle that ethnic groups must suppress their identities to build a strengt particular transfer of the core principle. to build a strong nation-state based on

a common sense of Turkishness.

President Suleyman Demirel, asked about Kemal in an interview in his palace in Ankara, gave a figurative shrug of helplessness. He said: "Yasar Kemal is a very famous author. I like him very much. He has done beautiful things. He uses Turkish. But he is coming from a Kurdish family -that's all right.

"But what he did in his article, that's unfortunate. I don't think the whole thing is bad. People in Turkey were divided — many said he shouldn't have done it. He did it. The prosecutor cannot do anything else."

Kemal was born in a hamlet called Hémite, 60 houses in a cotton-growing plain of Chukurova. On his mother's side, all the men lived by brigandage. At the age of 5, he suffered shock when he saw his father slain while praying at a mosque, and he was struck with a speech impediment that lasted until he was 12.

Only by singing could he lose his stammer. This led him to the Anatolian tradition of folk minstrels, elegies, and epics, and, to record them, he walked to a neighboring village to go to primary school. He had innumera-ble jobs, including driving a tractor and working in a library, where he read the classics.

He also went to jail a lot, mostly for his leftist convictions. "Tve been in court maybe 20, 25 times," he said, "I was tortured a great deal. They tied my legs together, beat my feet, put my head in a toilet."

His most famous work, "Memed My Hawk," the story of a Robin Hood-like bandit in the Taurus Mountains, won him international fame in 1955. He has written 36

Kemal says his stance comes naturally from his work. "As a writer of this country, I want to create novels of its language. I'm attached to it. I don't want it to enter the 21st century as a damned country. Democracy is an honor for a country. And for me the honor of the country is more impor-

tant than the territory of the country." He insisted that, if convicted, he would not accept a pardon. "Now I'm not a tractor driver anymore." He flashed a smile. "So if I'm in jail, I can do something --- write novels."

PEOPLE

Rolling Stones Cancel Stops in 3 Asian Cities

The Rolling Stones have canceled shows in three Asian cities next month because Hong Kong couldn't guarantee the availability of its stadium. The Stones were to have performed in Singapore, Manila and Hong Kong, but the Hong Kong stadium, which has been under attack from neighbors complaining of noise, refused to approve the concert until it conducted noiselevel tests. "If we lose Hong Kong out of the Asian tour, it's just not a viable thing for us to do it financially," said Dale Remaie of Midas Promotions.

..**□** ... The author and director Heiner Müller has been named artistic director of the Berliner Ensemble, the East Berlin theater founded by Bertolt Brecht after World War II. Peter Zadek resigned the position last week. Mulier and Zadek represented two extremes in style of Germany's post-unification theater.
"The more we knew each other, the less we wanted to know about each other," Müller said.

Claire Gibasit will be the first woman to lead the La Scala orchestra, conducting a contemporary opera, "La Station Thermale" by Fabio Vacchi, on Sunday, Gibanlt has directed the Lyon Opera since 1990 and has conducted elsewhere in Europe and in the United States.

Paul McCartney said Wednesday that the three sur-viving members of the Beatles have recorded new songs to be released at the end of 1995. The tracks, which McCartney recorded with George Harrison and Ringo Starr in a London studio, will be released along with their 10-hour TV documentary "The Beatles Anthology." The three recorded an unfinished John Lennon song, "Free as a last singer's recorded the later singer's recorded. ing the late singer's recorded voice.

WEATHER

Forecast for Friday through Sunday, as provided by Accu-Weather.



North America
The East, except Florida, will have dry weather and above-normal temperatures. Showers will dampen Chicago and their Toronto, possibly ending as snow with a turn to colder weather. Northern California will get some rain, but southern sections will remain mostly reinfree. stormy and cool with gusty winds and episodes of rain. Snow can fall in Scotland and northern England Friday and in portions of Scandinavia over the weekend. Southern Europe will be much more tranqui, but will turn slightly cooler.

some moderation late in the weekend. Eastern Ching will be cool and dry Friday, then turn milder and showery by Sunday. Southeast Asia and Malaysia will be hot and humbel.

Latin America North America Anchorage 4-25 - 13/8 p
Alauris 2-271 11/8-2 p
Boston 948 2-755 c
Chcago 14/57 3/77 s
Denvier 14/57 3/77 s
Double 14/57 3/77 s
Horokiu 27/80 19/56 p
Houston 23/73 91/8 s
Los Angeles 23/84 12/53 p
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WEEKEND SKI REPORT

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Austria Ischol	90 220	Garie	Coen	Pekel	7/3	Ali 41 lifts open, still very good	
Kitzbuhei	. 35 155			Var	14/3	All 64 bits, all but lowest good	
Obergurgi	50 140					21/22 lifts open, good piste skiing	
Saalbach	40 120		Open			58/60 litts open, new snow	
St.Anton	85 420	Good	Open	Ver	8/3	Ali 35 lifts open, generally good	

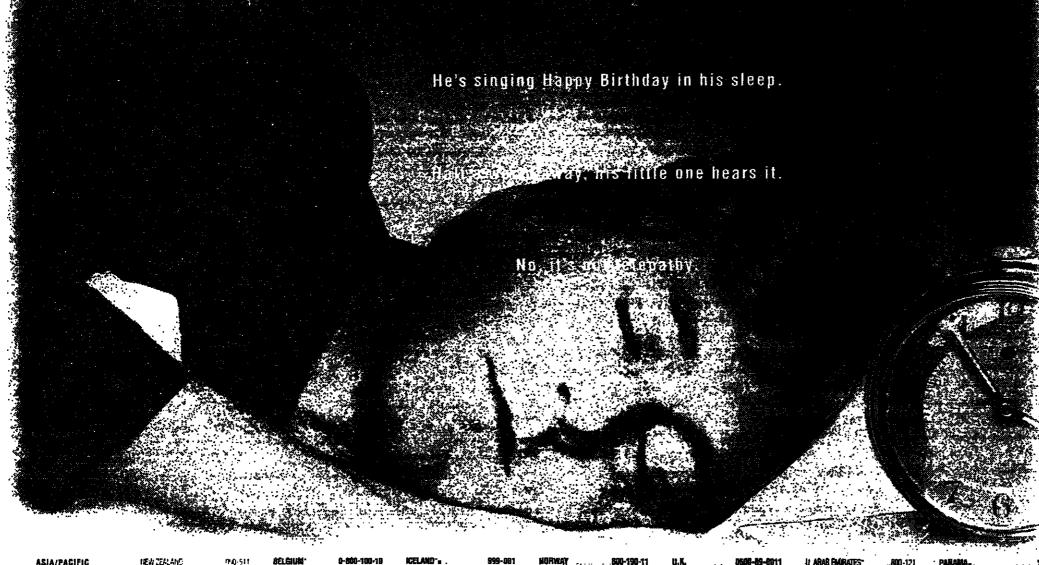
105 320 Good Open Pwdr 14/3 All 26 lifts and all 200 runs open

Steaart	Depth Mrs. Nos. Snow Last L. U Pietes Pietes State Snow Comments
Cortina Courmayeur Selva Sestrière	25 100 Good Open Pokd 8/3 59/40 kits open, mostly good 100 310 Good Open Ver 15/3 21/23 filtr open, snow telling 35 120 Good Open Pokd 9/3 78/78 filtr open, seele roads open 50 90 Firm Open Herd 8/3 Af lifts open, mostly ok
Morway Gello	135 135 Good Open Ver 15/3 All 18 litts open, good skiing

Saqueira Beret 70 95 Fair Open Spring 8/8 All Mis open, typical apring skiing 90 180 Good Open Var 9/3 All litts open, good, odd loy batch 190 400 Febr Open Var 9/3 41/43 litts open, spring conditions 80 200 Good Open Var 9/3 41/43 litts open, spring conditions 30 220 Herd Open Spring 7/3 All 35 litts open, good open great pate sking 70 200 Good Open Var 9/3 All 35 litts open, good open great pate sking 30 110 Febr Open Var 9/3 All 35 litts open, great pate sking 55 200 Firm Open Var 9/3 All 35 litts, spring conditions 90 170 Hard Open Var 9/3 All 35 litts, spring conditions 110 330 Good Worm Var 6/3 72/73 litts open, generally good 110 330 Good Worm Var 6/3 72/73 litts, all but lowest good

205 210 Good Open Pwdr 14/3 All 8 lids open 165 195 Good Open Pwdr 14/3 All 17 lits open 330 570 Good Open Pwdr 14/3 15/30 lits open

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